



A Weekly Journal of the Chemical and Drug Trades
and of
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The CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST is in circulation and reputation the leading journal addressing the chemical and drug trades in the British Empire and other countries in the Old and New Worlds. It is the official journal of nineteen Chemists' Societies in Australia, Ireland, New Zealand, South Africa, and the West Indies.

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BRITAIN'S EXPORT TRADE

in drugs, chemicals, and pharmaceutical sundries during 1912 was considerably over a million pounds more in value than in 1911. The increase still continues, and it indicates that the Colonies and Dependencies, as well as foreign countries, are buying goods of British origin more and more. Is your export trade increasing? If you want more profitable overseas business, advertise the fact prominently in

THE COLONIAL AND FOREIGN ISSUE

of

THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST.

The publication date is April 26, and you will obtain advice, assistance, and all particulars from the Publisher, 42 Cannon Street, London, E.C.

SUMMARY.

Being a first glance at the articles and events reported in this Issue.

Articles and Communications.

The work done in a typical German School of Pharmacy is exemplified in the review on p. 69.

"Xrayser II," touches a chord of sympathy in his remarks on the sweating of sub-postmasters (p. 47).

A mystery is attached to the phellandrene-eucalyptol oils now in the market, as is indicated by the note on p. 34.

Further notes for revision of the Japanese Pharmacopœia have been issued, and we give a translation of them on pp. 34-35.

Mr. Newsholme and Dr. Symes are retiring from the Pharmaceutical Council, hence the observations on p. 48. We also comment upon the Pharmaceutical Society's financial position, showing how alteration of examinations has reduced the income and induced a trade crisis (p. 49).

The correspondence pages contain a number of interesting communications, including an improved Insurance prescription-form (p. 69), renewal of the dispensing agreements (p. 70), and the fatal effect of quinine on Pekinese puppies (p. 70), besides many replies to correspondents on legal and pharmaceutical questions (pp. 71-72).

National Health Insurance.

The seventeen columns of information about the chemists' part of medical benefit in this issue is the record so far, yet everything is put as pithily as possible. The principal items are a report of the examination by the Irish Committee of Inquiry of witnesses from the Pharmaceutical Society and the Chemists' and Druggists' Society (pp. 51-54), and a report of a chemists' meeting in Edinburgh, where the tension was relieved and the threatened revolt stayed by a promised bonus up to 10 per cent. at the end of the year if the Commissioners find there is money to pay it (pp. 55-56).

News of the Week.

For revised C.S.S. store prices see p. 36.

Notes on the Argentine and Canadian duties on perfumes are printed on p. 67.

New Australian Customs decisions are mentioned on p. 66, and South African ones on p. 67.

The new Western Australia regulations as regards the importation of foods and drugs are referred to on p. 66.

An exceptional protest by Wimbledon inhabitants against the closing of chemists' shops has been presented to the Town Council (p. 36).

The financial statement of the General Fund of the Pharmaceutical Society is printed on p. 43, along with corresponding figures for 1911.

The disappearance of several hundred pounds' worth of chemicals from Messrs. May & Baker's warehouse is now being thoroughly investigated (p. 65).

The first instance in which the Sale of Food and Drugs Act, 1875, has been used to check Insurance prescriptions and secure conviction of the dispenser is reported on p. 39.

The deaths reported include Mr. W. R. Hopkins, Ph.C. (Barry), Mr. R. Goodwin Mumbray, Ph.C. (Richmond, Surrey), and Dr. Oscar Oldberg, formerly of Chicago (pp. 40-41).

The Pharmaceutical Council candidates are Messrs. J. W. Barrett, W. G. Cross, W. L. Currie, W. H. Gibson, R. L. Gifford, A. Hagon, L. M. Parry, E. White, G. Whitfield, and G. S. V. Wills. Three of these will not be elected: which? (p. 42).

It is questionable if the Government has the power to force the Pharmaceutical Society to make by-laws admitting apothecaries' assistants and others to registration without examination under the Pharmacy Act. So a Parliamentarian says (p. 50).

At the Patent Medicine Committee's sitting on Thursday, Mr. Smith, of Steedman's Powders, was recalled and examined on oath regarding a pamphlet written by a medical man—named. Mr. John Lawson, Ph.C. ("Daisy" Powders), gave evidence in regard to acetanilide and phenacetin in headache powders (p. 57).

Trade and Market Matters.

Market alterations include a decline in apomorphine, eserine, Calabar beans, turpentine, English castor oil, bergamot and orange oils, soy, and cod-liver oil. Balsam Canada, cocoa-butter, Cochin coconut oil, glucose, starch powder, oxalic acid, and valerian are higher (p. 61).

Phellandrene in Eucalyptus Oil.

RECENT observations in the *C. & D.* by Mr. E. J. Parry and Messrs. Salamon & Seaber regarding some commercial eucalyptus oils indicate that when phellandrene is detected in the oil this is evidence that amygdalina oil is present. We agree that this is a rational inference, and that it supports the practice in this country of using amygdalina oil to blend with oils of high eucalyptol-content. In this connection we quote a statement by an Australian distiller:

All the eucalyptus oil distilled in Victoria can be divided, from a chemical standpoint, into four classes:

	S.G.	Eucalyptol	O.R.	Phellandrene	Solubility in 10% Alcohol
(1) Mallee oils	0.924	76 %	0°	absent	1½ vol.
(2) Globulus oils...	0.918	60 %	0°	absent	1½ vol.
(3) Gippsland oils	0.900	30 %	-20°	trace	1½ vol.
(4) Amygdalina ...	0.870	—	-20°	present	insol.

A blend of Mallee 1 part and Gippsland 1 part gives s.g. 0.912, eucalyptol 53 per cent., o.r. -10°, and phellandrene a trace; while a blend of Mallee 2 parts and Amygdalina 1 part gives s.g. 0.906, eucalyptol 51 per cent., o.r. -20°, and phellandrene present. It is therefore impossible to blend these two classes to make a B.P. oil, because when the eucalyptol is right the s.g. and o.r. are wrong.

Mr. Parry's figures (*C. & D.*, March 8, index folio 358) suggest that he was dealing with a blend of Mallee and Gippsland oils, as they accord closely with the distiller's. We have also received a letter from Mr. W. Naumann in which he deals with a confusion thus expressed by one of his Australian correspondents:

"It appears that there is some confusion regarding the term 'Amygdaleno.' Custom, as sanctioned by Von Mueller, applies that name to oils which contain no eucalyptol, but by Baker and Smith's specification this oil should be called 'Dives,' and the true Amygdaleno, according to some authorities, gives 25 per cent. and upwards of eucalyptol, occasionally as much as 60 per cent."

We are writing in absence of books of reference, but our recollection is that the "Dives" oil is the Gippsland product. The original Amygdalina oil did not contain eucalyptol.

The Japanese Pharmacopoeia.

IT is the practice of the Pharmacopœia authorities in Japan to publish revision notes in regard to the Pharmacopœia of Japan, Ed. III., brought out in 1907. The first list of revisions was published in the *C. & D.*, March 2, 1912, and now a further number of revisions have been proclaimed by the Home Minister. The revised tests, which came into force in March, are as follows:

ACETANILIDUM.—The paragraph "easily soluble in alcohol, ether, and in chloroform" now reads "soluble in ether, and easily soluble in alcohol and in chloroform."

ALBUMINUM TANNICUM.—For "0.25 gram of pepsine" read "0.25 gram of saccharated pepsine." "Ignite 2 grams of it, add 5 c.c. of dilute hydrochloric acid to the residue, and dissolve it, gently warming; the filtrate should produce no change with hydrogen-sulphide solution; if coloured, should be only very slight" (added).

ALCOHOL ABSOLUTUS.—Distil 100 c.c. of alcohol absolutus so that it comes over at the rate of 10 drops per minute, and take 0.1 c.c. from 10 c.c. of the distillate first obtained into a test-tube; add 5 c.c. of potassium-permanganate solution (1 in 100) and 0.2 c.c. of sulphuric acid to it; after two or three minutes, when the mixture in the test-tube is decolorised to a yellow colour with 1 c.c. of oxalic-acid solution (1 in 12), add 1 c.c. of sulphuric acid and shake it to its complete decoloration; then add 5 c.c. of acid-sulfurousaniline solution (solutio acidi sulfurosanilini), cork the tube; after shaking lightly, no coloration should be produced within one hour; if coloured, should produce no more than a faintly blue coloration. Secondly, take the whole of the remaining distillate above-mentioned, add 250 c.c. of potassium-permanganate solution (1 in 100) and 10 c.c. of sulphuric acid to it, and shake; after two or three minutes, decolorise with oxalic-acid solution (1 in 12), then distil; during the distillation take about 5 c.c. of the distillate frequently, and add about 0.03 gram of phenylhydrazine hydrochlorate, 4 drops of sodium-nitroprusside solution (1 in 40), and 1 c.c. of sodium-hydroxide solution

(1 in 10; when a dark-red coloration is no longer produced, change the receiver and collect the distillate; add 3 grams of calcium carbonate to it, and distil again. To the distillate obtained add an excess of ammonia-water, and evaporate at a temperature not exceeding 80° C. till a concentrated solution is obtained, then take 2 drops of the resulting solution on an object-glass and add 1 drop of mercuric-chloride solution; when examined under the microscope, star-form crystals, either in tri-radial or poly-radial form, should not be observed on it. (Added.)

ANTIPYRINUM.—The paragraph "also soluble in about 50 parts of ether" is revised to "also soluble in about 80 parts of ether."

ARGENTUM PROTEINUM.—"Potassium sulphide" is struck out from the list of reagents with which this substance should produce no change.

ATROPINUM SULFURICUM.—The paragraph "A white, crystalline powder, prepared from atropine, which melts at 115° C.," is revised to "A white, crystalline powder, melting at 180° to 190° C." The requirement that a solution should not be rendered turbid by ammonia-water is revised to "10 c.c. of the aqueous solution should not be immediately rendered turbid by 4 c.c. of ammonia-water."

BISMUTUM SUBNITRICUM.—In the solubility-test, "dilute sulphuric acid" is now defined as "dilute sulphuric acid s.g. 1.109 to 1.114."

CAFFEINO-NATRIUM BENZOICUM.—The requirement that a solution should show a neutral reaction has been struck out.

CHININUM ÆTHYL CARBONICUM.—Melting-point 93° to 95° C. (revised). The word "easily" has been struck out from the solubility requirement as regards alcohol, ether, and chloroform.

CHLORALUM HYDRATUM.—Melting-point 53° to 56° C. (revised).

CODEINUM PHOSPHORICUM.—The second paragraph is revised as follows: If 0.01 gram of codeine phosphate be dissolved in 10 c.c. of sulphuric acid, an almost colourless solution should be obtained, and if warmed with 1 or 2 drops of solution of perchloride of iron added, it produces a blue coloration which turns to a violet colour.

CROCUS.—When it is warmed with potassium-hydroxide solution, the vapour evolved should not immediately turn a moistened red litmus-paper violet-blue. (Added.)

EXTRACTUM FILICIS.—The word "clearly" is struck out in regard to the solubility in ether.

FERRUM REDACTUM.—The third paragraph is revised as follows: When 1 gram of ferrum redactum is dissolved in 20 c.c. of a mixture of water and hydrochloric acid in equal volumes, the residue, if any, should be not more than 0.01 gram, and the gas evolved should be almost colourless, and should not within five minutes colour brownish a slip of paper moistened with lead-acetate solution. The aqueous solution obtained by shaking 2 grams of it with 10 c.c. of water should not change the colour of test-paper, and the filtrate, on evaporation, should not leave any solid residue.

The fifth paragraph is revised as follows: Introduce 0.5 gram of it, in finely powdered state, into a glass bottle of 100 c.c. capacity, and add 1.5 gram of coarsely powdered iodine, pour 10 c.c. of potassium-iodide solution on it in small quantities at a time, stopper the bottle tightly, and when iodine and iron have dissolved completely by gentle shaking, make up to 100 c.c. with water, and set aside. To decolorise 50 c.c. of the clear solution thus obtained, it should not require more than 10.3 c.c. of decinormal sodium thiosulphate solution.

FORMALINUM.—The sixth paragraph is revised as follows: To 3 c.c. of it add 50 c.c. of the solution freshly made by dissolving 25 grams of crystalline sodium sulphite in 100 c.c. of water and 1 drop of phenolphthalein; add decinormal hydrochloric-acid solution drop by drop till the solution is decolorised, and note the quantity of the acid solution required. Also, to 12 c.c. of sodium-sulphite solution above-mentioned add 80 c.c. of water and 1 drop of phenolphthalein solution, and add decinormal hydrochloric-acid solution till decolorised; then subtract the quantity of the acid solution required from the quantity required in the test mentioned above, when the difference should be at least 37.8 c.c.

GUAIACOLUM CARBONICUM.—The paragraph "slightly soluble in alcohol, but readily soluble in boiling alcohol, chloroform, and in benzene" is revised to "slightly soluble in alcohol and ether, but readily soluble in boiling alcohol, chloroform, and in benzene."

KALIUM CAUSTICUM.—The content of pure potassium hydroxide is revised to 85 per cent., and the neutralisation-test now reads 8 c.c. normal hydrochloric-acid solution instead of 9 c.c.

LIQUOR CRESOLI SAPONATUS.—One part of it should mix clearly with at least 5 parts of water. (Added.)

MORPHINUM HYDROCHLORICUM.—In the ammonia-test the words "which easily dissolves colourless in sodium-

hydroxide solution" is revised to "which easily dissolves colourless or almost colourless in sodium-hydroxide solution."

OLEUM CITRI.—The miscibility requirement of "about 7 parts of alcohol" is revised to "about 12 parts of alcohol."

OLEUM FENICULI.—The words "soluble in an equal volume of alcohol" have been deleted, and there is added the following: "It dissolves clearly in an equal volume of alcohol, and should produce no change by adding 10 volumes of alcohol still more."

PARAFFINUM SOLIDUM.—Melting-point 68° to 72° C. (Revised.)

SOLUTIO ACIDI SULFOSANILINICI.—Preparation: Dissolve 0.1 gram of crystalline fuchsine in powdered state in 88 c.c. of water with 0.7 gram of sodium bisulphite; to the resulting solution, after an hour, add 25 drops of hydrochloric acid. The solution thus obtained should be colourless or slightly yellow. Tested as follows: If 5 c.c. of it be taken into a test-tube, and 5 c.c. of formaldehyde solution (1 in 100,000) and 1 c.c. of sulphuric acid be added, after being corked and shaken lightly, be placed aside for one hour, it should produce a reddish-violet coloration. Keep in well-stoppered bottles protected from light in a cold place.

SPIRITUS.—There is added the test for methyl alcohol given under Alcohol absolutus.

STYRAX LIQUIDUS.—The paragraph "but is almost completely insoluble in petroleum benzin" is revised to "but is partly soluble in petroleum benzin."

TELA DEPURATA.—Purified gauze should produce no violet coloration by dropping iodine solution on it. (Added.) The last paragraph is revised to "Its tests are the same as those described under the article of Gossypium depuratum."

VINUM.—To the paragraph which names the substances which should not be used during or after manufacture methyl alcohol is added. In "the testing and the standards of wine," Ordinance No. 23 of the Home Office, November 1909, the following revision has been proclaimed: As an ingredient, which requires to be tested in special case, methyl alcohol is added. Art. 30 gives test for the determination of methyl alcohol, which follows on the lines of the test given above under Alcohol absolutus.

COMING EVENTS.

Tuesday, April 8.

Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain, 17 Bloomsbury Square, London, W.C., at 8 p.m. Evening meeting. "The Chemical Examination of *Euphorbia pilulifera*," by Dr. F. B. Power and Mr. H. Browning, jun.; "The Chemical Examination of the Roots of *Phacelus multiflorus*," by Dr. F. B. Power and Dr. A. H. Salway; (a) "The Identification-value of Hairs in the Examination of Herbs and Leaves" (illustrated with lantern-slides), (b) "Note on False Nux Vomica Seed," (c) "A New Adulterant of Buchu," by Mr. James Small, Ph.C.

Wednesday, April 9.

South-West London Pharmacists' Association, Restaurant Frascati, Oxford Street, London, W., at 6.30 p.m. Annual dinner and reception by the President (Mr. John Keall), Mr. W. S. Glyn-Jones, M.P., Mr. E. White, Mr. W. J. Uglov Woolcock, and Mr. E. T. Neathercoat will be present. Tickets (6s. 6d. each) from Mr. W. E. Mason, Hon. Secretary, 89 Acre Lane, Brixton, S.W.

Ipswich Chemists' Association, Great White Horse Hotel, at 7 p.m. Annual dinner. Tickets (4s. 6d. each) from Mr. W. H. Stones, Hon. Secretary, 21 Tacket Street.

Midland Pharmaceutical Association, Grand Hotel, Birmingham, at 9 p.m. Smoking-concert. Tickets (1s. each) from Mr. H. Critchlow, Hon. Secretary, 161 Monument Road, Edgbaston.

Newcastle-on-Tyne Chemists' Association, Hôtel Métropole, Clayton Street West, at 8 p.m. Trade matters.

Thursday, April 10.

London Chemists' Association, Venetian Chamber, Holborn Restaurant, London, W.C., at 7 p.m. Complimentary dinner to Messrs. C. B. Allen (President of the Pharmaceutical Society), Mr. W. S. Glyn-Jones, M.P. (Parliamentary Secretary), Mr. W. J. Uglov Woolcock (Organising Secretary), Mr. P. F. Rowsell, J.P. (Chairman of the Pharmaceutical Standing Committee), and Mr. E. T. Neathercoat. Tickets (6s. 6d. each) from Mr. J. Wellesley Douglas, Hon. Secretary, 19 Kennington Terrace, London, S.E.

North London Pharmacists' Association, Northampton House, St. Paul's Road, Highbury Station, N., at 3.30 p.m. Mr. F. W. Gamble on "The Codex."

Grimby Pharmacists' Association, Oberon Hotel, at 7 p.m. Annual dinner. Tickets from Mr. C. H. Ashton, Hon. Secretary, 342 Wellington Street.

ENGLISH AND WELSH NEWS.

When sending newspapers to the Editor please mark the items of news to which you desire to call his attention.

Brevities.

A wine licence has been granted to Mr. Joseph Hender son Dennis, druggist, Howdon.

John Phillips & Son, seedsmen and corn merchants, Newport (Mon.), are applying for a poison licence.

In a window-dressing competition held recently at Ashton-under-Lyne, the local branch of Boots, Ltd., chemists, in Old Square, secured the second prize in a class which included chemists.

Messrs. Butler & Crispe, Clerkenwell Road, London, entered ten of their horse-vans in the London Van-horse Parade at Regent's Park on Easter Monday, and were awarded eight first prizes and two seconds. Lord Lonsdale was the judge.

The medicated wine-licence attached to the business of the Thompson Drug Co., Ltd., 17 Astley Street, Dukinfield, has been transferred to Mr. J. F. Miller, chemist and druggist, Ashton-under-Lyne, who has acquired the business from the liquidators of the company.

One day last week a cow walked into the pharmacy of Mr. Thomas Bell, chemist, Ambleside, but it was got out without any article being upset or any damage done. It is a singular coincidence that Mr. Bell employs a girl from the farm from which the cow came.

Two hundred firemen and thirty engines were engaged at an outbreak on April 2 in a block of warehouses, 53 and 55 Old Street, London, E.C. The first floor, occupied by Messrs. C. Müller, surgical instrument makers, was burned out, and damage was done on the four other floors. Messrs. Müller have taken the ground floor and basement of Nos. 57 and 59 adjoining, and have arranged that business will go on as usual.

During the night of April 1 the plate-glass window of a Nottingham chemist's shop was smashed. The manager was quick to turn the misfortune to good account—from an advertisement point of view. On the temporary wooden barricade which had to be erected he posted a notice similar to what was put on a Boots' shop in London—viz.:

"This is not the work of a suffragist, but of a boxer, who could not wait until the shop opened to procure a bottle of —."

Considerable crowds were attracted by the notice during the day.

The police are searching for a man who is perpetrating a series of frauds by means of advertisements in the provincial Press. He advertises for a traveller-collector at 25s. per week and commission and states "Small cash security required." The replies are usually to be addressed to a box number of the journal. Several persons have replied to them, and the advertiser represents himself as a wholesale druggist, and is disposing of a business in another place, and commencing to trade in the town in which he advertises. In several instances he has obtained 5l. security from applicants and then disappeared. His name is given as R. Alexander, aged thirty-five years, height 5 ft. 7 in., of fresh complexion, auburn hair and moustache, and wearing gold-rimmed spectacles.

At the Auction Mart, Market Street, Birkenhead, on March 26, the stock-in-trade of Mr. W. S. Mitchell, chemist and druggist, who carried on business at 35 King Street, Egrement, and The Nook Pharmacy, Liscaul, was disposed of by auction. Before the sale took place the whole of the fittings and fixtures were sold by private treaty, while the drugs were sold privately at valuation. What remained were disposed of in two hours, comprising 205 lots. These were composed of toilet-soaps, shaving sticks and tablets, combs, brushes, perfumery, and other fancy articles. These were disposed of in lots too small for the chemist to be interested in. Two-penny toilet-soaps, usually retailed at three for 5½d., fetched as much as 1s. 11d. per box of one dozen tablets. The public bid high, and good prices were realised.

Store-prices.

The members' circular of the Civil Service Supply Association, Ltd., contains three pages relating to the drug department. C.S.S.A. cold-cream, toilet-vinegar, and meat-and-malt wine are allocated one page. Tabloid "first aid" outfits and ladies' ornamental hair each occupy half a page. Prices advanced recently include: Antiseptic throat pastilles, 1s. box; cinnaform tablets (box of 50), 11d.; Congreve's elixir, 10d., 2s., 3s. 4d., and 9s. per bottle; Neave's infants' food, 9d. per tin; listerine, 2s. 2d. and 4s. per bottle. Prices reduced refer to C.S.S.A. carbolic tooth-powder, gran. eff. citrate of magnesia, and Carlsbad powder, cod-liver oil emulsion, and aromatic cascara sagrada. Tincture of benzoin, simple or compound, is reduced to 8d. per 2-oz. bottle.

Shops Act.

At the last meeting of Wimbledon Town Council a letter was read protesting against any order being made for the compulsory closing of shops open for the sale of medicines and medical and surgical appliances on the early closing day, and giving the following reasons for such protest:

(1) To only sell in cases of illness would not be sufficiently remunerative to warrant anyone being on duty. (2) In the event of all shops for sale of medicines, etc., being closed, might not a life be endangered, or at least unnecessary suffering caused? (3) Wednesday's sales (after 1 p.m.) of medicines, medical and surgical appliances constitute 10 to 15 per cent. of week's takings. (4) Sales other than sales in case of illness and as aperients, and remedies for minor ailments—e.g., ointment, medicated lozenges, etc.—are very frequent, and evidently a public necessity.

The letter was accompanied by a petition signed by seventy-one residents in the borough and seventy-nine residents of Merton and district.

Meat Wines.

At the annual session of the Grand Lodge of England and the United Services of the International Order of Good Templars, held at Scarborough during Easter week, the Grand Chief Templar, Alderman Joseph Malins, of Birmingham, in his report stated: "I have had correspondence with the Parliamentary Committee on Patent and Proprietary Medicines, with a view to securing more expert medical evidence on the delusive character of the so-called 'medicated' and 'meated' wines, so largely advertised, and have ensured that such evidence will be forthcoming if allowed." This was adopted without comment. At the final day's sitting Brother Major F. Dimmer pointed out the difficulty of framing legislation in these matters in consequence of the difference between the formulæ for medicated wines set up by the British Pharmacopœia and the standard by which the Inland Revenue regulations were framed. A motion was adopted asking that the Grand Lodge Executive be requested to formulate a statement on the subject of medicated wines and other drinks containing alcohol sold under the illusory names for presentation at the next Grand Lodge session.

The Public Weal.

Mr. John Hannah, chemist and druggist, Market Street, Abergelle, is a candidate for election to the local Urban Council.

Mr. F. W. Bites, pharmacist, Brooks Bar, Manchester, and Vice-President of the Manchester Pharmaceutical Association, has been returned unopposed to the Stretford District Council.

The following gentlemen have been appointed overseers of the poor: Mr. W. J. Barnes, chemist and druggist, of Dover; Alderman J. R. Birkett, chemist and druggist, Morecambe, for the parishes of Poulton, Bare, and Torrisholme.

Analysts' Affairs.

In Warrington last year one sample each of camphorated oil, castor oil, and glycerin were examined and found genuine.

In Bristol during the past year 37 samples of drugs were taken for analysis. Of these two of glycerin and one of mercurial ointment were not up to the required standard.

In his annual report Mr. Thompson, public analyst for Monmouthshire, states that the usual cheaper drugs, or those most commonly used as household remedies, such as camphorated and castor oil, cream of tartar, liquorice powder, glycerin, etc., had been examined to the number of 47. The only cases worthy of note were rather careless labelling in failing to describe the nature of the contents, although the labels referred to were probably quite sufficient to enable any purchaser to understand what he or she was buying. There was nothing misleading about them, and no substitution of inferior or different substance than was implied could be charged. The purity and general excellence of this group was very satisfactory throughout.

Manchester Notes.

Mr. Joseph Brooks, chemist, of the firm of Joseph Brooks & Co., Ltd., wholesale chemists, Shudehill, Manchester, has resigned his position as managing director with the firm.

The shop and premises leased by Boots, Ltd., at 39 Market Street, Manchester, which have stood empty since the end of December, are now being fitted up and made ready for business.

The stock of Mr. Griffiths Hughes' retail establishment at 17 Deansgate, Manchester, is being offered for sale at huge reduction. From appearances there are many bargains to be secured by early purchasers.

The nomination papers for the forthcoming election of the Council of the Manchester Pharmaceutical Association have been sent out. Now that there are 200 members, greater interest is being evinced in the composition of the Council.

Poisonings.

Four fatalities consequent upon taking poisons have been reported during the week. *Carbolic disinfectant* was the suicidal agent used by William Holmes (46), fish hawker, Norwich, and Ann Farrel, of Ynysymardy, Briton Ferry. *Fusel oil*.—Clara Sangster (30) intentionally poisoned herself at New Brighton by taking "whisky shot." At the inquest deceased's uncle stated that the liquid (which was fusel oil) had been given to him ten years ago for rheumatism. The bottle had been hidden away on the top shelf of a wardrobe. *Poisonous liniment*.—John R. A. Taylor (67), retired surgeon, Broadmead, committed suicide by taking a liniment containing belladonna, aconite, chloroform, and opium.

From Various Courts.

At Windermere Police Court on March 26, Daniel Geary was charged with begging and wilfully damaging a plate-glass showcase to the extent of 15s., the property of Mr. T. M. Holmes, chemist, Bowness. It was stated that Geary entered Mr. Holmes's and greeted the assistant with, "Good afternoon, young gentleman." Then without more ado Daniel flourished a large tin can he was carrying in his hand, and brought it down on the plate-glass cover of the showcase on the counter. The assistant seized prisoner in time to prevent further glass-breaking, and ejected him into the street. Geary hurled his can at the plate-glass window, which escaped "with only a severe shaking." Geary banged at a few more windows with his can, but did no further damage. The Bench sentenced him to one month's hard labour.

At Westminster Police Court, on April 1, John Wood Cowl (32) pleaded guilty to embezzling the moneys of his late employer, Mr. Arthur W. Temple, chemist, 1 Churton Street, Pimlico, London, S.W. Prisoner was engaged last November to carry on Mr. Temple's dental business. During an investigation of accounts at the beginning of last month he absconded. His practice had been to enter up in the books less amounts than received from patients. The ascertained defalcations amounted to between 50l. and 60l. Accused, the son of a well-known dentist in the Midlands, was really in negotiation for a partnership with the prosecutor, and believed that there was only a matter of account between them capable of adjustment. The Magistrate (Mr. Francis) said defendant had been guilty of a series of crafty frauds involving false entries in the books. The sentence was two months in the second division.

IRISH NEWS.

When sending newspapers to the Editor please mark the items of news to which you desire to call his attention.

Brevities.

Mr. R. F. McCartney, Ph.C., Coleraine, has been re-elected a member of the select vestry of St. Patrick's Parish Church.

Mr. Jas. Hunter, Ph.C., Kilrea, co. Londonderry, has been elected a member of the select vestry of the Parish Church.

The Ballyborough Guardians have accepted the tender of Messrs. Boileau & Boyd for medicines at 28½ per cent. discount, and that of Messrs. S. Connor & Sons, Newry, for medical and surgical appliances at 33½ per cent.

Mr. H. E. Young, Ph.C., Strand, Londonderry, submitted plans to the Corporation on Tuesday for the rebuilding of his premises. The City Surveyor reported that they were in order, and the plans were approved of.

The Limavady Guardians have appointed Sumner & Co. and John Clarke & Co., Belfast, contractors for medicines and appliances respectively. At Strabane Boileau & Boyd have secured the contract for medicines at 23¼ per cent. off list-price, while the appliances contract was awarded to Connor & Sons at 35 per cent. discount.

A new pharmacy, under the style of Harmur, Ltd., has been opened at 29-31 Ann Street, Belfast. The promoters of the company are four North of Ireland pharmaceutical chemists—Messrs. L. Murray (Davidson & Murray, Belfast), W. J. Hardy (Davidson & Hardy, Belfast), J. A. Woodside (Ballymena), and R. F. McCartney (Coleraine).

At the meeting of the Carlow Board of Guardians on March 27, the question of the salary of the dispenser, Mr. C. J. Johnson, Ph.C., came up on a motion of Mr. John Murphy (see *C. & D.*, March 15, index folio 410). Mr. Murphy proposed, and it was seconded, that the salary be increased by 20%. A good deal of discussion followed, and finally a proposal to increase the salary by 10% was carried by eighteen votes against fifteen.

The Public Health Committee of the Belfast Corporation has authorised the inspector under the Sale of Food and Drugs Acts to withdraw two summonses issued in the case of the sale of a pennyworth of mercurial ointment found to be below the B.P. standard, as it is the recognised practice of the trade to sell "blue" ointment ready for application. Chemists, it is added, are to understand that when this ointment is so sold it must be labelled accordingly.

SCOTTISH NEWS.

When sending newspapers to the Editor please mark the items of news to which you desire to call his attention.

Aberdeen Technical College.

An important change has been made by the Governors of Robert Gordon's Technical College in their arrangements for the proposed Chemistry Department in the College. Up to this point the special committee have contemplated the erection of buildings suitable for the accommodation of the departments of engineering and chemistry as integral portions of the general scheme of technical education. In the course of their deliberations and inquiries the committee have come to be of opinion that these two departments should be disjoined, and now formally recommend:

"That chemistry and other branches of science should be concentrated into a distinct department and housed in the eastern block of temporary buildings, and full equipment installed for the opening of the new session in September next. That a qualified head of the Chemistry Section of the Science Department should be appointed at a salary of 400% per annum, to enter upon duty not later than August 1 next."

The Governors, at their meeting on Friday, March 28, provisionally approved of the chemistry as well as of the

other sections forming the complete scheme for the Technical College. It was stated that the cost of the whole scheme would involve an expenditure of 60,000%, and an increased annual cost for maintenance of 2,000%, bringing the total annual expenditure to about 12,000%. The matter was referred to the Finance Committee for report.

Edinburgh.

A fine photograph of the late Mr. G. G. Margach was reproduced in the "Evening News" on March 28.

On Wednesday, March 26, Dr. Inglis Clark delivered his illustrated lecture, dealing with a Continental motoring tour, in the Kirk Memorial Church, Montgomery Street.

Mr. Joe Brown (Messrs. Gibson & Co., chemists, Clerk Street) is the winner of the Davis Challenge Cup for billiards this year. Mr. Archibald Currie, Ph.C., Ferry Road, Leith, was runner-up.

Mr. Thomas McIlwrick, Edinburgh, who was elected Chairman of the United Kingdom Commercial Travellers' Benefit Society at Hull on Saturday last, is a popular representative of Messrs. Breidenbach.

At Inverleith on Wednesday, March 26, Edinburgh Tramways scored three goals against Edinburgh Pharmacy's *nil*. So far this season the pharmacy team has played twenty-one matches, of which eighteen were lost, one drawn, and two won.

Glasgow and the West.

Mr. W. Rowan, chemist, Garscube Road, Glasgow, is removing to better premises close at hand.

Mr. Walter Brodie, chemist's assistant, Stirling, has won the Science bursary of 25% offered by the Stirling Educational Trust.

The Glasgow Pharmacy Amateur Swimming Club open the season on Tuesday, April 8, in Whitevale Baths from 8.45 to 10 P.M., when it is hoped that all those interested in swimming will be present.

April 30 is the last day for receiving applications from candidates for the Kinninmont prizes. The syllabus can be obtained from Mr. W. L. Currie, Hon. Secretary, 223 Byres Road, Dowanhill, Glasgow.

The local Co-operative Society has taken over a doctor's surgery in Renton, Dumbartonshire, and it will be opened under the supervision of a qualified chemist for Insurance and general pharmaceutical work.

Mr. D. M. Skinner, chemist, and Provost of Oban, is strongly opposed to the appointment of an Army or Navy officer as Chief Constable of Argyllshire. He does not like the idea of paying a man while he is learning a business which cannot be mastered in a year.

INDIA AND THE EAST.

(From the "C. & D." Correspondents.)

THE NEW CAPITAL.—The Government of India have decided to end the battle of the sites which has been in progress at Delhi by adhering to their original proposal in favour of the southern site as the seat of the new capital at Delhi.

PERSONAL.—Mr. Charles W. White left Bombay for home on March 22. He has not completely recovered from his recent illness, but a cool voyage will do much to restore him to normal health.—Mr. J. L. Holden is relinquishing charge of Messrs. Burroughs Wellcome & Co.'s Bombay depot and proceeding home shortly. Mr. F. S. Woodhouse succeeds him.

COCAINE SMUGGLING.—A steamer recently arrived at Colombo from Calcutta with 5,000 oz. of cocaine on board, but although the Customs officers and the C.I.D. searched the vessel nine times in all, they were not successful in locating it. The Customs information was definite and detailed, but this did not help them; they are certain, however, the drug had not been landed when the vessel left for Colombo. The ship was practically besieged all the time she was in port, and considerable excitement was caused.

FRENCH NEWS.

(From the "C. & D." Paris Correspondent.)

THE DEATH is announced at Nancy, at the age of sixty-three, of M. Julien Godfrin, director of the School of Pharmacy of that town. He was a native of Chatel-Saint-Martin, near Metz, and the whole of his scientific career had been passed at Nancy. Previous to his appointment as director he was professor at the School of Pharmacy there at the time of the tragic death of his predecessor, Dr. Bleicher, in 1901, who was assassinated by a "cutting" pharmacist.

THE OUTLOOK OF PHARMACY.—If the number of students at the French Pharmacy Schools grows less as the years roll on, and assistants are becoming more and more difficult to find, the number of men "keeping open shop" has increased of late years. In 1860 France boasted but 6,000 *officines*—say, one pharmacist to each 7,200 inhabitants. In 1900 there were 9,406 (one per 4,100 souls); and the number now is about 12,000, or one *officine* to every 3,280 citizens. Paris, of course, is the most favoured spot, 1,347 pharmacists being established in the capital, with an average of about 2,000 possible clients apiece.

A CURIOSITY IN PATHOLOGY.—A young woman named Mlle. Jansen is employed as librarian in the Pasteur Institute, Paris, and her presence there is due to the fact that she is a pathological curiosity. It is stated that although apparently in excellent health herself she has the most unfortunate attribute of being a permanent victim of typhoid, and is liable to communicate the malady to those with whom she comes in contact, at least ten of her friends having contracted typhoid in this manner. By repeated injections of antityphoid serum Professor Metchnikoff has succeeded in nullifying the effects of the germs from Mlle. Jansen, but it remains to be seen whether the bacilli have been permanently conquered.

PHARMACY BEFORE THE LAW.—The Parisian Courts are constantly deciding matters too small to merit individual notice, but of which the totality presents a relative interest. Last month, for instance, a pharmacist was fined 4*l.* for leaving his poison-cupboard unlocked and not observing the regulations as to the strict registry of sales of opium and saccharin. For the first offence only another paid 1*l.* The delicate distinction between "holding" and "selling" a product accounted for the acquittal of a herbalist. She stocked senna, but actual sale could not be proved. The Tenth Police Court decided that the sale of iodoform gauze is the exclusive monopoly of qualified pharmacists; but it declined to convict for non-accordance with the Codex when the gauze was deficient in iodoform, remarking that proof was lacking to show that the iodoform had not evaporated; it was quite possible that the proper quantity was originally used. The same Court declined to prosecute for picric acid in iodoformed gauze, the gauze being otherwise rigorously in accordance with the Codex. A woman who sold trioxymethylene vaginal "cones" was condemned for illegal practice of pharmacy. A pharmacist who lent his name to a foreign firm was also fined.

WILLS PROVEN.

MR. FREDERICK HILL O'NEILL, wholesale druggist's traveller, Rock Ferry, Cheshire, who died on January 26, left estate valued at 296*l.* 12*s.* 4*d.*

MR. ALLAN McMULLAN, chemist and druggist, Harrogate, who died on January 23, intestate, left estate valued at 598*l.* 5*s.* 11*d.* gross, with net personality 252*l.* 8*s.* 8*d.*

MR. JOHN CAIRNS, retired chemist, Belfast, who died on November 29 last, left personal estate in the United Kingdom valued at 1,558*l.* 8*s.* 11*d.*, of which 100*l.* 8*s.* 4*d.* is in England.

MR. JAMES OLIVER HATCH, Ph.C., Heysham, Lancs, formerly in business in Manchester, who died on January 29, left estate of the gross value of 5,816*l.* 17*s.* 6*d.*, of which 2,337*l.* 2*s.* 4*d.* is net personality.

LEGAL REPORTS.

TRADE LAW.

Medicine-stamp Acts.—At Swansea last week, Arthur Roberts, Aberavon, was fined 4*l.* for selling a dutiable medicine (1) without a licence and (2) unstamped at a stall in the market place.

Saffron.—At the Thames Police Court, London, on April 1, Noble's Drug-stores, Ltd., Well Street, E., were under Section 6 of the Sale of Food and Drugs Act, 1875, fined 10*s.*, and 23*s.* costs, for selling saffron containing 25 per cent of borax and nitre, besides excess moisture.

An Appeal in the case of W. H. Smith & Sons v. Elliman, Sons & Co., which arose on a special case stated by an arbitrator, was mentioned to Justices Ridley, Pickford, and Avory in a King's Bench Divisional Court on April 3. It was stated that the appeal had to do with the award of an arbitrator in respect of a claim for printing a booklet for Messrs. Elliman. Mr. Danckwerts, K.C., said he had consulted with Mr. Holman Gregory, K.C., who was for the other side, and they had come to the conclusion that the case should be settled. It would be a long and complicated case if fought out. Mr. Holman Gregory said he thought the case should be settled, and if the appeal was adjourned that the parties might discuss the question, it probably would be settled. Their Lordships assented.

Sunlight Soap.—The Stipendiary Magistrate at Manchester, on March 27, dismissed a case under the Merchandise Marks Act, taken by the Incorporated Society of Industries against a local grocer for selling, in response to a request for two separate pounds of soap, packets of Sunlight soap, each of which contained about 14 oz. The defence was that the soap was not sold by weight, but by the packet, and that there was no attempt to defraud. The Stipendiary Magistrate upheld this contention. He did not think he ought to hold it to be the duty of small shopkeepers to weigh all the packets of soap they received when they ordered pound packets, and when it was a common thing for packets to contain a pound. He dismissed the summons. In a second and similar case he reserved his decision. Here the defendant stated that although he had heard Sunlight soap asked for by weight, he had never known it sold by weight, and he had given written instructions to his managers to sell it by the packet. It was intimated that whatever the Magistrate's decision might be, the case would be taken to a higher court.

Gillette Razor Case.—The House of Lords, consisting of Lords Atkinson, Shaw, Moulton, and Kinnear, had before them on April 1 and 2 the case of the Gillette Safety Razor Co., of Leicester, v. the Anglo-American Trading Company, Ltd., and Bent & Parker, Ltd., of Birmingham. The action was brought before Mr. Justice Parker in the Chancery Division for an injunction for the alleged infringement of plaintiffs' patent by the manufacture and sale by Bent & Parker, Ltd., and the sale and supply by the Anglo-American Co. of razors according to the invention described in plaintiffs' letters patent dated December 30, 1902, as afterwards amended, for improvements in safety or other razors, granted to Mr. King Camp Gillette. His Lordship granted the plaintiffs an injunction, with costs. The Court of Appeal, however, held that the defendants had not infringed, and entered judgment for the defendants, with costs. Sir Alfred Cripps, K.C., M.P., and Mr. Thos. Terrell, K.C., M.P., on behalf of the appellants, the Gillette Co., now urged that there were several features of the invention which were novel and good subject-matter for letters patent. Mr. A. J. Walter, K.C., for the respondents, contended that the judgment of the Court of Appeal was right both in law and in fact. The hearing was adjourned.

County Court Cases.—At Shoreditch, before Judge Cluer, on April 1, Emma Eva Lane, 115 High Street, Kingsland, sued Messrs. John Edmunds & Co., Ltd., 33 High Street, Kingsland, chemists, to recover 3*l.* 12*s.*, being the balance of an account for painting the shop and polishing the counters and showcases. There was a counterclaim for an award in favour of the defendants for 8*l.* 19*s.*, that being the amount it was alleged they would be out of pocket in having to put bad work right. After hearing evidence, his Honour found for the plaintiffs on their claim for 1*l.* 12*s.*, and judgment was entered accordingly, with costs.—At the same Court, before Mr. Registrar Wickham, on the same day, Joseph Mordecai, advertisement contractor, sued A. Beith, 368 High Road, Leyton, the proprietor of drug-stores, to recover 16*s.* for advertising work done. The plaintiff said the defendant signed the order in the name of Beith, of the Leyton Drug-stores, and he had no knowledge that there was anyone else connected with the firm. The defendant admitted signing the order,

but it was done on behalf of the proprietor of the chemist's shop, a Mr. Leer. Defendant said the only part he took in the business was that of dentist, and as to that his name was up. The Registrar said it was quite clear that if the defendant was not the proprietor of the shop, he had allowed it to be thought so, and the one who took the order was justified in thinking he was. He gave judgment for the plaintiff for the amount claimed, and costs.

A Veterinary Advertisement.—The slander action by Orlando Charnock Bradley, M.A., D.Sc., Principal of the Royal (Dick) Veterinary College, Edinburgh, against Menley & James, Ltd., 39 Farringdon Road, London, was concluded in the Court of Session, Edinburgh, on March 27. Particulars of it were given in our issue of March 29. The pursuer sought 500*l.* damages, and in the result the jury awarded him 1*s.* 6*d.* The Lord President (Lord Dunedin), in the course of his charge to the jury, said in reference to the allegation that the defenders' advertisement falsely and calumniously represented that Dr. Bradley had done an act contrary to professional etiquette and professionally disgraceful, "disgraceful" must mean disgraceful in the general opinion of the profession, the leaders of which had been getting somewhat more strict in that matter lately than they were before. There had been an effort to draw the line tighter, but if the effort had only been made concurrently with the present case, it was more difficult to say that it was an act intrinsically "disgraceful" at the time the accusation was made. They must take the general idea of the profession, not the idea of the leaders, nor the idea of the discredited man, but the ordinary professional man. With regard to the question of damage, it was not a case where there was any actual damage in the sense of loss of fees or damaged professional position. The Veterinary Surgeons' Council had accepted Dr. Bradley's denial, and, moreover, they had received a letter from the defenders in which the latter admitted that they did not get any written testimonial from Dr. Bradley. After an hour's absence the jury returned a unanimous verdict for the pursuer, assessing the damages at 6*d.* on each of three issues submitted.

Deficient Insurance Prescription.—At the Fenton Police Court on April 2, before Mr. B. C. Brough (the Potteries Stipendiary), H. W. Hulme, Ltd., chemists, Fenton, were charged under Section 6 of the Sale of Food and Drugs Act, 1875, with selling to the Stoke-on-Trent Insurance Committee certain pills composed of ingredients not in accordance with the demands of the purchaser, the same being deficient in manganese peroxide and arsenious acid. Mr. J. D. Ritchie, who prosecuted, explained that Miss Chapman, an insured person, consulted Dr. Boyd, who prescribed for her as follows:

Pil. ferri	...	...	...	gr. iij.
Mangan. peroxid.	...	...	...	gr. j.
Acid. arsenios.	...	...	...	gr. ʒ.
Fiat pilula.				

The defendants dispensing the prescription, Dr. Boyd was not satisfied with the pills, which were analysed, and found to be destitute of the second two ingredients. The Insurance Committee had brought these proceedings for the reason that a wrongly dispensed prescription was a serious thing for the patient. Dr. Boyd then supported this statement by evidence. Mr. F. Collis, for the defendants, urged that a *bona-fide* mistake had been made. Two days before Miss Chapman called defendants had received a similar prescription from Dr. Young, and not having the pill in stock, they obtained a gross from him. When Miss Chapman called, Mr. Hulme's assistant was leaving early, and Mr. Hulme asked him where the pills were. He indicated, and Mr. Hulme consequently went to the box labelled "Pil. ferri." Blaud's pills were usually labelled distinctly "Blaud," and not "Pil. ferri." Mr. Hulme was under the mistaken impression that this was the box indicated by the assistant, and which contained the pills received from Dr. Young. The Stipendiary, in imposing a fine of 3*l.* and costs, said it was all-important that prescriptions should be properly dispensed, because a slight difference in a compounded medicine might make a great deal of difference to the condition of a patient.

DEED OF ARRANGEMENT.

Lewis, David John, 133 Clifton Street and 14 Oakfield Street, Cardiff, Chemist.—Trustee, C. E. Dovey, 31 Queen Street, Cardiff. Dated, March 19; filed, March 26. Deed of inspectorship with a view to payment of a composition of 10*s.* in the pound by rateable distribution. Debtor to pay to trustee 3*l.* weekly to meet same, secured by an assignment upon trust, etc., until default. Secured creditors, 770*l.*; liabilities unsecured, 644*l.*; estimated net assets, 417*l.* A list of creditors appeared in our issue of March 22.

GAZETTE.

Partnerships Dissolved.

BAKER, S., and BEVIS, G. F., Eastgate Square, Chichester, pharmacists and dispensing chemists, under the style of Baker & Son.

KEMP, C. T., and BROOK, W. B., recently at Eign Street, and "The Standard Works," Berrington Street, Hereford, chemists and aerated-water manufacturers, under the style of Kemp & Brook.

The Bankruptcy Acts, 1883 and 1890.

ADJUDICATION.

CARTWRIGHT, A. H. (trading as Deans), Snargate Street and Biggin Street, Dover, chemist.

LIMITED COMPANIES.

New Companies Registered.

The letters P.C. mean Private Company within the meaning of the Companies Act, 1907, and R.O., Registered Office.

WRIGHT'S, CASH CHEMISTS, LTD. (P.C.).—Capital 500*l.*, in 1*l.* shares. Objects: To carry on the business of chemists, druggists, opticians, dentists, etc. The subscribers and first directors are Arthur Wright, Arthur A. Wright, and Mrs. Alice Wright. R.O., 1 Clarence Road, Derby.

BURCHELLS (CHEMISTS), LTD. (P.C.).—Capital 500*l.*, in 1*l.* shares. Objects: To take over the business of a drug-stores carried on by D. Burchell at 36 High Street, Nether-ton, near Dudley. The subscribers and first directors are D. Burchell, G. H. Bennett, Mrs. A. E. G. Burchell, and W. H. Dangerfield.

C. A. TESKE, LTD. (P.C.).—Capital 2,000*l.*, in 1*l.* shares. Objects: To carry on the business of manufacturers of and dealers in medical and surgical instruments and appliances and hospital accessories, etc., as formerly carried on by C. A. Teske at 33 Percy Street, W., as "C. A. Teske & Co." The first directors are C. A. Teske (permanent), P. Phipps, G. H. Driver-Holloway, and H. A. Driver-Holloway. R.O., 33 Percy Street, Tottenham Court Road, W.

Company News.

A. J. WHITE, LTD.—The directors have declared an interim dividend of 2½ per cent. on account of the last working year.

EVANS SONS LESCHER & WEBB, LTD.—Warrants for half-year's dividend on the 5 per cent. cumulative preference shares due on April 1 have been posted.

STEVENSON & HOWELL, LTD.—Mr. Albert James Croxford has been appointed a director of the company, and Mr. John Wilkinson succeeds him as secretary.

BARCLAY & SONS, LTD.—The directors report with great regret that the trading last year was disappointing owing to several unfavourable conditions, which, not being permanent factors, need not, in their opinion, occasion anxiety for the future. After paying interest on debentures, there is a profit balance of 225*l.* 7*s.*, and, with 300*l.* from the reserve, the directors have paid 652*l.* 1*s.* in interim dividend on the preference shares, leaving 73*l.* 9*s.* 10*d.* to be carried forward. Mr. A. E. Barclay is the retiring director, and offers himself for re-election at the meeting on April 10.

COLEMAN & CO., LTD.—The report for 1912 states that the net profit, after providing for interest on debentures and bank overdraft, expenses incurred in litigation, and writing down of premises account, amounted to 20,109*l.* The directors recommend a dividend of 5 per cent. on the ordinary shares, to transfer 5,000*l.* to reserve fund (now 30,000*l.*), and to carry forward 7,681*l.* The decrease in profit arises mainly from the heavy increase in prices of raw material, dislocation of trade caused by the labour troubles and strikes, and, lastly, the disastrous flood which overtook the city of Norwich.

PRICE'S PATENT CANDLE CO., LTD.—The report for 1912 shows a profit of 92,863*l.*, compared with 88,815*l.* for 1911, 87,873*l.* for 1910, and 79,980*l.* for 1909. After adding 9,856*l.* undivided profit from 1911 and deducting the interim dividend of 15*s.* per share, amounting to 28,125*l.*, paid in September last, there remained on December 31 a disposable sum of 74,595*l.* The directors recommend writing off 12,500*l.* for depreciation of buildings and plant, placing 5,000*l.* to the pension fund, applying 46,875*l.* in payment of a final dividend of 1*l.* 5*s.* per share, free of tax, thus making 2*l.* per share for 1912, and carrying forward the remaining 10,220*l.*

BIRTHS.

HENDERSON.—At Alexandra House, Brent View Road, West Hendon, London, N.W., on March 23, the wife of A. W. Henderson, chemist, of a son.

LOW.—At 62 Broad Street, Fraserburgh, on March 29, the wife of John H. Low, chemist-optician, of a son.

MOWAT.—At 20 Market Square, Stonehaven, on March 31, the wife of John C. Mowat, chemist and druggist, of a son.

TURNBULL.—At 18 Honister Avenue, High West Jesmond, Newcastle-on-Tyne, on April 1, the wife of Alexander Turnbull (B. W. & Co.), of a son.

MARRIAGES.

BUTTON—ARTHUR.—At St. Paul's Church, North Shore, Blackpool, on March 25, Chas. Button, chemist and druggist, Tunbridge Wells, to Miss Arthur, only daughter of Mr. C. Arthur, 47 Carshalton Road, Blackpool.

FARMER—GODFREY.—At St. Mary's Church, Newark, on March 24, Charles F. Farmer, pharmacist, Spilsby, to Maude M. Godfrey, eldest daughter of Mr. H. Godfrey, of Newark.

HORNE—BRICK-DALE.—At Ealing Green Congregational Church, Ealing, London, W., on April 2, by the Rev. T. M. Mundle, of Chelmsford, Percy Horne, chemist-optician, of Bourton-on-the-Water, Glos, to Lena Victoria, youngest daughter of Mr. R. F. Brick-Dale, of Chelmsford.

MACGREGOR—MCLAREN.—At Bridge of Allan, Perthshire, on January 17, Donald MacGregor, chemist and druggist, of the Federal Dispensary, Klang, and formerly of Kuala Lumpur and Malacca, to Katherine, fourth daughter of Mr. Peter McLaren, Bridge of Allan.

MELLON—DOHERTY.—At Crescent Presbyterian Church, Belfast, on March 25, by the Rev. John McIlveen, D.D., Robert Mellon, Ph.C., Manor Street, Dublin, to Johanna Field, youngest daughter of the late Rev. Wm. Doherty, M.A., and Mrs. Doherty, 56 University Avenue, Belfast.

NUTTALL—MORLEY.—At St. Michael's Church, Mottram-in-Longendale, Yorks, on March 24, John Joseph Nuttall, chemist and druggist, only son of the late Mr. John Nuttall, of Ashton-under-Lyne, to Edith, eldest daughter of the late Mr. W. H. Stott Morley, of Hyde.

ROBERTSHAW—WILSON.—At St. Luke's Church, Darlington, on April 1, Mr. Henry Robertshaw, chemist, Redcar, to Annie, daughter of the late Captain Wilson, V.D., Darlington.

WALLIS—BELL.—At St. Giles's, West Bridgford, on March 31, by the Rev. R. Hargreaves, M.A., Neville Bruce, younger son of the late William Wallis and of Mrs. Wallis, Stapleford, Notts, to Annie, only daughter of Mr. J. Henry Bell, chemist and druggist, West Bridgford (late of Stapleford).

DEATHS.

ECKERSLEY.—On March 30, Mr. Moses Eckersley, chemist and druggist, 115 Orford Lane, Warrington, aged sixty-nine. Mr. Eckersley, who had suffered from gout for some time, was in the habit of taking morphine. It is supposed that on Friday last he took an overdose, and although everything possible was done for him he died from the effects.

MACGEORGE.—At Islington, London, N., recently. Mr. William MacGeorge, chemist and druggist, 356 Essex Road, London, N., aged seventy. Mr. MacGeorge, who had been suffering from Bright's disease for some time past, died from the effects of pleurisy and chronic bronchitis.

MEHARRY.—At Belfast, on March 30, Mr. W. J. Meharry, aged sixty-nine. Deceased had been a dispenser in the service of the Belfast Board of Guardians for over twenty-

five years, and had latterly been in charge of the dispensing at North Queen Street Dispensary.

HOPKINS.—At Barry, on March 26, Mr. William Richard Hopkins, Ph.C., 88 High Street, Barry, aged fifty-three. Mr. Hopkins, who was at his business the previous day, was taken ill during the night and died from heart-failure before the arrival of his medical attendant. He had lost his eldest son, aged twenty-one, only three weeks ago. Mr. Hopkins, who was a native of Aberystwyth, went to Cadoxton about twenty-five years ago and started business soon after the opening of the Barry Dock. He subsequently removed to High Street, Barry. One of the most esteemed tradesmen in the district, he was elected President of the Cardiff Pharmaceutical Association in 1905. He was also a member of the Barry Chamber of Trade, and was one of the founders of the Trinity Presbyterian Church. He leaves a widow, two daughters, and one son.



MR. W. R. HOPKINS.

MUMBRAY.—Mr. Robert Goodwin Mumbray, Ph.C., who was for many years in business at Richmond, Surrey, died at Richmond, on March 29, in his ninety-fifth year. It was his ambition to live to be a centenarian, for his grandmother lived to be 108. Lately Mr. Mumbray had a recrudescence of an internal trouble which necessitated his removal to a nursing home at the end of last year. He was a native of Thanet, and was apprenticed to a chemist in Sandwich, whence he went to Manchester as an assistant, and started in business for himself there, so that when Jacob Bell visited the city in 1852 Mr. Mumbray at once became a member of the Pharmaceutical Society. Subsequently he came south to Richmond, Surrey, where he carried on business for many years in Hill Rise until he disposed of it to Mr. Rex Blanchford, fully a dozen years ago, when he retired and went to live in Deal, subsequently removing to Dover, thence to Richmond last year. He was a man of unusual ability and well grounded in the sciences, for at the time he lived in Manchester the influence of Joule was predominant and Mr. Mumbray associated himself with leaders in science and thought. He was a keen botanist, as we recently testified when reproducing a note from him on squill, with a water-colour sketch of the plant done by himself. During his retirement we received many communications from him, and all of them, published and unpublished, proved that he kept himself abreast of the times and was a man of wide-reading, besides being a ready writer.



MR. R. G. MUMBRAY.

REYNOLDS.—At 101 Eglantine Avenue, Belfast, on March 25, Marcella Winifred, daughter of Mr. T. W. Reynolds, chemist and druggist, Dungannon, co. Tyrone.

THOMSON.—On March 29, Mr. W. G. Thomson, late manager in Scotland for Lawes' Chemical Manure Co., Ltd.

WALKER.—At Creig-na-Crioch, Saltcoats, on March 30, Agnes Preston, wife of the late James Walker, chemist and druggist, Saltcoats.

WARDALE.—Recently, Mr. Francis Charles Wardale, chemist and druggist, aged thirty-nine. Mr. Wardale was in business at 132 High Street North, East Ham, London, E., for about twelve years, previous to which he was at Barking. He had been staying at Bognor for the benefit of his health. The interment took place at King's Lynn on March 27.

OLDBERG.—At Pasadena, California, on February 27, Dr. Oscar Oldberg, formerly Dean of the Northwestern



DR. OSCAR OLDBERG.

University School of Pharmacy, Chicago, aged sixty-seven. When Dr. Oldberg was President of the American Pharmaceutical Association in 1909 he was unable to be present at the fifty-seventh annual meeting held at Los Angeles, California, in August of that year, as some time before he had had a paralytic seizure; since then he had passed gradually from the ken of American pharmacy. Oldberg was the son of Pastor Oldberg, Helsingland, Sweden, and was apprenticed to an apothecary named

Helleday in the town of Falun. Helleday had been a pupil of Berzelius, and to his training, as well as to his father's moral influence, was due much of Oldberg's high character in matters pharmaceutical. He emigrated to the United States in 1865, and held various positions. He became Professor of Pharmacy and Dean of the Faculty in the National College of Pharmacy, Washington, which conferred upon him the degree of Doctor of Pharmacy *Honoris Causa*. He went to Chicago in 1883 for a similar position in the Chicago College of Pharmacy, and held it for about ten years, when he migrated to the Northwestern University School, of which he ultimately became a Doctor of Laws. Soon after going there he astounded American pharmacists by his proposal that pharmacy apprenticeship is a bad thing, and that the best training for a young pharmacist is to spend his first three years in such a school as that which he presided over. His services to American pharmacy were not confined to education, as he was a member of committees for the revision of the United States Pharmacopoeia, and contributed well to American pharmaceutical literature.

WILTON.—At Bryn-Teg, Llandudno, on March 19, Mr. Robert George Wilton, chemist and druggist, aged seventy-seven. Mr. Wilton, who died after a painful illness of six months' duration, was in business in High Street, Runcorn, for about forty-five years. He retired in 1911.

WOODHOUSE.—On April 3, at his residence, Courtfield Road, Kensington, London, S.W., after an illness of a month's duration, Mr. Henry Melville Woodhouse, senior partner of Messrs. C. M. & C. Woodhouse, brokers, Commercial Sale Rooms, Mincing Lane, E.C., aged seventy-three. Mr. Woodhouse had been connected with the produce trade over fifty-five years, and was probably the oldest broker engaged in Mincing Lane business at the time of his death. The firm of Woodhouse was in existence prior to 1787, principally as sugar-brokers, which, together with cocoa, coffee, cinchona, quinine, and other produce are among the items dealt in. Mr. Woodhouse was the Chairman of the London Commercial Sale Rooms, Ltd., and Chairman of the Benevolent Fund.

THE IMPORTS OF DRUGS AND CHEMICALS into Victoria, Australia, during 1912 amounted in value to 351,720*l.*, against 308,488*l.* in 1911.

INSURANCE MEETING AT PORTSMOUTH.—The chemists on the Portsmouth panel held a meeting on April 2. Members were individually asked to state their difficulties with insurance dispensing, or to mention complaints, and it was pleasant to find that these totalled to nothing serious. Some of the points raised will, however, be matters of negotiation with the Medical Committee at an early date. The new tariff was considered, and it was suggested that an opportunity might be granted of revising some prices where an advance was probable before next winter. Cod-liver oil was instanced by Mr. Atterbury. On the motion of Mr. S. Arnold, Mr. T. O. Barlow was warmly thanked for his able chairmanship.

PHARMACEUTICAL SOCIETY OF GREAT BRITAIN.

Council-meeting.

THE monthly meeting of the Council was held at 16 Bloomsbury Square, London, W.C., on April 2. Mr. W. H. Quarrell, the Society's solicitor, presented for the use of the President a beautiful inkstand to commemorate his connection with the Society. The Treasurer suggested that an effort should be made to pay off the debt of 1,000*l.* which the Benevolent Fund owes to the General Fund. Two annuitants, Mr. Wilton and Mr. Mumbray, have died since the last meeting. Mr. Sargeant and the President referred to Mr. Mumbray's career. The Local Association Committee are arranging for May 7 a conference in London of delegates from local Associations. The President's reception will not be held this year. For the seven vacancies on the Council there are ten candidates. Mr. Newsholme and Dr. Symes are retiring from the Council. The Committee of Inquiry as to the sufficiency of the pharmaceutical service under the National Insurance Act have received evidence from the Pharmaceutical Society, whose witnesses the President said have made every effort in the interests of the Society. The Privy Council's approval of the alterations in the poison-schedule was received.

THE Councillors present were: Mr. C. B. Allen (President), Mr. E. White (Vice-President), Mr. W. H. Gibson (Treasurer), and Messrs. F. E. Bilson, A. S. Campkin, J. H. Cuff, W. L. Currie, F. J. Gibson, R. L. Gifford, A. Hagon, J. F. Harrington, E. T. Neathercoat, G. T. W. Newsholme, F. A. Rogers, P. F. Rowsell, F. P. Sargeant, T. A. White, and J. R. Young.

The minutes of the previous meeting included the statement that the seal of the Society should be affixed to an agreement for the publication of the "Journal."

THE SOLICITOR'S MEMENTO.

THE PRESIDENT announced that he had received from Mr. W. H. Quarrell, the Society's solicitor, a letter in which he stated that having occupied his position for ten years he desired to mark it in a trifling manner by asking the acceptance by the Society of a silver inkstand for the use of the President.

The present was placed on the table, and many expressions of admiration heard. The inkstand is handsome old silverplate with two cut-glass ink-bottles and a central candlestick. It is inscribed, "To the Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain from W. H. Quarrell," and bears also a crest which has not yet been identified—it is that of a marquis.

The President accepted the gift on behalf of the Society, and said he would convey to Mr. Quarrell the Council's appreciation.

ELECTIONS AND RESTORATIONS.

The election of members and student-associates was followed by the restoration of ten persons to their former position in the Society and the restoration of four names to the Register of Chemists and Druggists.

FINANCE COMMITTEE.

THE TREASURER then presented the report of the Finance Committee. The statement of accounts showed that the receipts of the General Fund amounted to 4,665*l.* 8*s.* 9*d.*, made up as follows: Penalties and costs, 127*l.* 7*s.*; subscriptions, 1,609*l.* 13*s.*; "Journal" and publications, 896*l.* 5*s.* 6*d.*; registration fees, 69*l.* 6*s.*; school fees, 18*l.* 7*s.* 6*d.*; restoration fees, 14*l.* 4*s.*; examination fees, 1,764*l.* 5*s.*; sale of registers, 148*l.* 15*s.*; dividend, 17*l.* 5*s.* 9*d.*; making a balance of 4,264*l.* 9*s.* 5*d.*, after making the payments authorised by the Council at the March meeting. The following amounts were recommended for payment: "Journal" and publications, 761*l.* 16*s.* 1*d.*; stationery, etc., 32*l.* 2*s.* 9*d.*; current expenses, 600*l.*; salaries, etc., 361*l.* 17*s.*; law charges,

22l. 8s.; house, 194l. 4s. 8d.; school and examinations, 49l. 8s. 2d.; professional charges, 99l. 15s.—a total of 2,121l. 11s. 8d. The balance on the current account of the Benevolent Fund was shown as 670l. 13s. 10d. and on the donation account 97l. 0s. 1d. The Orphan Fund showed on balance 31l. 13s. 8d.

The TREASURER said the subscriptions had come in remarkably well, 400l. more having been received than at the corresponding time last year. The receipts from examination fees had also increased considerably. The balances were quite satisfactory, although there was 500l. more to pay away. For the Benevolent Fund special subscriptions had been received as follows: Harrogate Pharmaceutical Association 21s., Worcester Pharmacists' Association 21s., and Mr. R. L. Whigham (from a collecting box) 4s. 6d. He reminded the Council that the fund was 1,000l. in debt to the General Fund, and said it would be satisfactory if this could be paid off. It is easy to borrow money, but not so easy to pay it back.

The report was adopted.

BENEVOLENT FUND.

The report of the Benevolent Fund Committee was next considered *in camera*, after which

Mr. F. J. GIBSON, the Chairman, in moving its adoption, said the balance on the current account was 75l. less than at the corresponding time last year, but the payments are less. There were eight applicants, and six persons were relieved, the amount granted being 92l. Two annuitants have died since the March Council meeting, Mr. Wilton, Llandudno, aged seventy-seven, and Mr. Mumbray, Richmond, aged ninety-five. Mr. Gibson then referred to the collecting boxes which have been prepared for placing in pharmacies or passing round at trade dinners. If these were in general use it might be possible to raise the 1,000l. referred to by the Treasurer.

Mr. SERGEANT said he had a peculiar interest in Mr. Mumbray. Although he had never seen him he had corresponded with him regularly for the last ten years. He exhibited a strong personality and had considerable literary ability.

The PRESIDENT said he had known Mr. Mumbray since he (the President) was nineteen and lived at Richmond. Mr. Mumbray was an absolute genius and of eccentric habits. If his abilities had been directed at an early age he would have been a great man of science. Mr. Mumbray took a warm interest and knew more of what was going on than many younger men.

Mr. F. J. GIBSON, in reply to the President, said that members could have a collecting box on application.

The report was adopted.

L., M., S., AND H. COMMITTEE.

The report of the Library, Museum, School, and House Committee was then presented by the President. This referred mostly to formal business, but in the portion dealing with the house was an account amounting to 13l. 13s. for house repairs, an estimate for 76l. 18s. for repainting the front of the premises, and a recommendation that the polished frames and sashes of the windows be repolished at a cost of 11l. 5s. The President explained that the painting was necessary by the terms of the lease.

The report was adopted.

LOCAL ASSOCIATIONS COMMITTEE.

Mr. E. T. NEATHERCOAT presented the report of this committee, which dealt with the various meetings held in the country during February. Attention was called to the meeting to be held at Peterborough during April. This was not mentioned in the scheme laid down at the beginning of the year, but is being held in accordance with the views of the Peterborough pharmacists. A supplementary report dealt with the organisation of a conference of delegates from local Associations to be held in London on May 7. It has been agreed that the President's reception should not be held this year in view of the Jubilee meeting of the British Pharmaceutical Conference. Local Associations are to be invited to make

suggestions as to the discussions, these to be sent in before April 30. The first part of the proceedings will be taken up with a *résumé* of the work of the Local Associations Committee during the year. In regard to Scotland, the North British Branch and Mr. Rutherford Hill will be invited to organise a conference to take place in Edinburgh on the same lines as the one to be held in London.

Mr. CURRIE congratulated Mr. Neathercoat on the accomplishment of the scheme, and was glad that Scotland had been taken into consideration.

Mr. CAMPKIN and Mr. HAGON supported the latter, emphasising the fact that it would be a business conference.

Mr. ROWSELL, referring to the suggestion that Mr. J. P. Gilmour should be present, said that the more they get to know each other the greater will be the union. He also referred to the district meeting at Exeter, and the need there is for Associations to represent Cornwall and Devon.

Mr. SERGEANT approved of the scheme, and suggested that the head office might ask local Associations to pay the fare of delegates. He also inquired whether something could not be done to make clear the relation between the Pharmaceutical Council and the Pharmaceutical Standing Committee. There appears, he said, to be some dissatisfaction with regard to the organisation of the latter body.

Mr. ROWSELL: It has only been established a year, but the question will be taken in hand when the opportunity presents itself.

The PRESIDENT hoped that delegates would come to the conference in large numbers, and as Chairman would do his best to keep to business and not allow the discussion to wander off into trivial details. He thought that Cornwall has shown lately signs of organisation, and that there will be now no difficulty in forming an Association. He also referred to the confusion about the functions of the Pharmaceutical Standing Committee, and said that a similar confusion exists in regard to the British Pharmaceutical Conference. He saw no way of making the difference more distinct.

The report was then adopted.

APPRENTICES REGISTERED.

The REGISTRAR reported that he had registered thirty-three persons as apprentices or students.

COUNCIL CANDIDATES.

The SECRETARY reported on the nominations for Council and auditors. He stated that seventeen nominations had been received for the seven vacancies on the Council, and that the following ten had signified their willingness to serve if elected:

J. T. Barrett, London, W.	A. Hagon, Cardiff.
W. G. Cross, Shrewsbury.	L. M. Parry, Liverpool.
W. L. Currie, Glasgow.	E. White, Ilford.
W. H. Gibson, Brighton.	G. Whitfield, Scarborough.
R. L. Gifford, Blackburn.	G. S. V. Wills, London.

The nominations for auditors were Messrs. I. Bourdas, G. B. Francis, C. Hodgkinson, F. H. Lescher, and J. C. Umney—these are the present auditors.

INSURANCE INQUIRY.

The report of the Parliamentary and General Purposes Committee stated that evidence had been given before the Committee of the Insurance Commissioners which is inquiring as to the sufficiency of the pharmaceutical service. Mr. Woolcock has given evidence. Mr. Rowsell also attended the meeting of the Parliamentary and General Purposes Committee to report regarding problems in Insurance matters.

The PRESIDENT, referring to the Committee of Inquiry as to the pharmaceutical service, said that the Society has done its utmost to produce proper evidence before the committee, and have left unsaid no word that should be said. He had every reason to believe that the evidence is almost concluded, and that the report would not be long in being put forward.

The report was adopted.

BUSINESS CHANGES.

Notes for this section sent to the Editor should be authenticated, and must not be in the nature of advertisements.

MR. W. H. BUCK, Ph.C., of Goole, has started a business at 186 Spring Bank, Hull.

MR. SAMUEL POTTER, drug-merchant, has removed from Fowkes Buildings to 16 Mark Lane, London E.C.

MR. W. H. EVANS, chemist and druggist, has commenced business at Victoria Buildings, Troedyrhiw, near Merthyr Tydfil.

MR. W. WILKINS, chemist and druggist, 428 Foleshill Road, Coventry, has sold his business to Messrs. Lester & Williamson.

MR. CHARLES BUTTON, chemist and druggist, has taken over the business of Mr. S. E. Amos, pharmacist, Bank Chambers, Colwall.

MESSRS. BOOTS' premises in Northumberland Street, Newcastle-on-Tyne, are being gutted for purposes of rebuilding. The temporary premises are across the road.

MR. R. WOOD, Ph.C., 50 High Street, Windsor, purchased from the executors of the late Mr. Edward Grisbrook, Windsor, the prescription-books of Wooldridge & Grisbrook.

MR. G. F. NICHOLSON, chemist and druggist, Whitehaven, has been appointed managing director of Spencer & Moore, Ltd., dispensing chemists, 137 Oxon Road, Birkenhead.

MR. PHILIP S. SMITH, chemist and druggist, has purchased the share of Mr. S. E. Amos, chemist and druggist, in the pharmacy at Market Square, Bromyard, carried on under the style of Amos & Smith.

MESSRS. J. B. LAWES & Co., LTD., announce that their offices at 21 Mincing Lane, London, E.C., have been closed and the staff transferred to the offices at Atlas Works, West Ferry Road, Millwall, London, E.

MR. J. F. MILLER, chemist, of Ashton-under-Lyne, has acquired the business at 17 Astley Street, Dukinfield, formerly carried on by the Thompson Drug Company. The wine-licence has been transferred to Mr. Miller.

MR. E. J. PROCTOR, chemist and druggist, has purchased the business of Mr. S. Shaw, chemist and druggist, 16 Market Street, Whaley Bridge, Cheshire. Messrs. Thomas Tomlinson & Son, of Manchester, conducted the transfer.

PERSONALITIES.

Notes for this section sent to the Editor should be authenticated, and must not be in the nature of advertisements.

MR. THOMAS CRITCHLEY, J.P., chemist and druggist, reaches this year the fiftieth anniversary of his establishment at 10 King William Street, Blackburn, with which business he is still actively connected.

A LARGE CARBON PORTRAIT of the late Mr. Harry Halstead, chemist and druggist, framed in oak, was unveiled at the Rishton Conservative Club on March 27. Mr. Halstead had been a member of the club for over thirty-three years.

MR. SAM THORNLEY has been appointed by Messrs. Burge, Warren & Ridgley, Ltd., druggists' sundriesmen and manufacturers of the Neptune fountain-pen, Great Saffron Hill, London, E.C., as their representative in South Wales.

MR. GEO. EMBREY, F.I.C., F.C.S., the Gloucester city and county analyst, and his wife celebrated their golden wedding on March 29. They were presented at a reception held at the Guildhall with an address and a gold chain for Mr. Embrey and gold watch for Mrs. Embrey.

MR. RICHARD T. SIMPSON, chemist, North Road and Church Street, Lancaster, has been elected President of the Lancaster Photographic Society, which has a membership of 114. Mr. Simpson joined the Society in 1889, and was appointed Assistant Secretary in 1890. He succeeded Mr. W. Briggs as Secretary in 1891, and with the exception of two years when he was ill continued to fill this office until March 1912.

THE INTERMENT of Mr. Richard Colwill, chemist and druggist, of Dulwich, London, S.E., whose death occurred last week (*C. & D.*, March 29, index folio 480), took place at Forest Hill Cemetery on March 27. All the local business establishments bore marks of mourning, and the scene at the grave side was most impressive. The principal mourners were: Mr. George Colwill (son); Messrs. William, John, Thomas, and Samuel Colwill (brothers); and Mrs. Hoare (sister); Rev. Rupert Patterson, Mr. Seldon, Mr. Daniels, Mr. Marks, and Mr. Clark. A large number of the general public were by the grave side, as were also strong contingents of the Masonic Brethren and pharmacists of the districts, among whom were: Messrs. Foulsham, Foster, Chappell, Stone, Callam, Timberlake, Rubra, Swire; while the wholesalers were represented by Mr. C. Martin (of S. Maw, Son & Sons) and Mr. Julius Arnold (of R. Gibson & Sons, Ltd.).

TRADE NOTES.

MESSRS. HOPKIN & WILLIAMS, LTD., 16 Cross Street, London, E.C., inform us that since their advertisement in *THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST* last week they have a further 500 milligrams of radium bromide, making 1 gram in all, for sale.

TABLOID PHOTOGRAPHICS.—At the Photographic Arts and Crafts Exhibition which opened at the Horticultural Hall, Westminster, S.W., on April 4, will be found an attractive exhibit by Messrs. Burroughs Wellcome & Co., Snow Hill Buildings, London, E.C. In addition to the "Tabloid" photographic chemicals, which are shown in great variety, there are some fine pictures by Mr. Gore, staff photographer to the "Daily Sketch," whose bird's-eye views of the Balkan war constitute the first photographs taken from an aeroplane on the field of battle.

ADALIN NOT A POISON.—The Bayer Co., Ltd., 19 St. Dunstan's Hill, London, E.C., wish it to be known that adalin, being an open-chain compound, is excluded from the list of poisons included in the additions to the Poisons Schedule gazetted on March 14, and accordingly it will not be required to be labelled "Poison." They point out that adalin is primarily a sedative, and may be given with perfect safety. There have been many instances of very large doses (in one case 144 grains) having been taken without any serious consequences.

"SOLACE" SHAVING-SOAP.—Among the many varieties of soap which are manufactured by Messrs. Edward Cook & Co., Ltd., soap specialists, Bow, London, E., none is so popular with menfolk as the "Solace" shaving-soap. Chemists are familiar with the showcard of the cheery shaver, which helps the sale considerably, at least when surrounded by a stock of the handsome metal cases to bring home to the passer-by the lesson of "cause and effect." It appears that the sale of the soap is increasing, due, we believe, to the fact that chemists have brought it to the notice of their customers. For those who desire to arrange a window-show, Messrs. Cook are prepared to supply dummies and showcards.

SAR-ZETS.—Messrs. W. B. Cartwright, Ltd., manufacturing chemists, Rawdon, near Leeds, are introducing compressed tablets composed of burdock, dandelion, and sarsaparilla under the name of "Sar-Zets." These have a pleasant taste and are packed in tins, and cartons are supplied for selling Sar-Zets at the rate of 2 oz. for 3*d*. Advertising matter of an appropriate character is offered to retailers, and it should help the sales considerably. We have also received samples of sulphur tablets which are well made and packed in a neat manner in tin boxes. The tablets are nicely flavoured, and with Sar-Zets are good lines for sale as blood-purifiers during spring and early summer. Further particulars are given in the advertisement pages of this issue.

THE importation, storage, and disposal of opium, morphine, cocaine, and similar drugs in St. Lucia, B.W.I., and Southern Nigeria are the subject of Government Ordinances.

WINTER SESSION.

Reporters, and Secretaries of Associations whose meetings are not open to reporters, are requested to send their reports to the Editor not later than the Wednesday following the meeting.

Cheltenham.—Mr. L. L. Stroud presided at a meeting of the Cheltenham, Gloucester and District Pharmacists' Association on March 27, when Mr. Spencer Palmer read a paper on *State Recognition of Pharmacists*. Among his suggestions was that pharmacists should, by paying an annual licence to the Revenue, be let off the 1½d. patent-medicine stamp, as a guinea a year paid in this way would be more dignified and more satisfactory to the Treasury.

Edinburgh.—Mr. William Duncan, Ph.C., F.C.S., contributed an instructive series of notes and queries at the meeting of the Edinburgh Chemists', Assistants', and Apprentices' Association on March 26. Exceptional pressure on our space prevents us dealing with them this week. A letter was read from Dr. John Cumming, offering a prize of one guinea for an examination in some practical subject connected with pharmacy or dispensing. The gift was accepted.

Hartlepool.—The annual meeting of the Hartlepool Pharmacists' Association was held at Birk's Café, West Hartlepool, on March 27. Alderman Thos. Clarkson presided, and there was a good attendance of members. In accordance with notice, certain rules were revised, and afterwards the following officers were elected: *President*, Alderman Thos. Clarkson; *Committee*, Messrs. J. B. Barker, J. G. Denton, P. H. Gamlen, Robt. Leithead, and J. G. Robinson; *Secretary and Treasurer*, A. Timmins. The hours of business for the Whitsuntide holidays were also fixed. (See also "National Health Insurance.")

Lancaster.—The annual meeting of the Lancaster Chemists' Association was held at the King's Arms Hotel on April 2. There were fourteen members present. The Secretary (Mr. J. B. Shattock) read his report, and it was approved. The Treasurer's report showed an increased credit balance. The following officers were appointed: *President*, Mr. F. N. Whitehead (Morecambe); *Vice-President*, Mr. J. Vince; *Hon. Secretary*, Mr. J. B. Shattock; *Treasurer*, Mr. W. Gorst. Messrs. W. Arkle and H. Troughton were elected on the *Committee*. Several alterations were made in the rules, and the title was altered to Lancaster and District Pharmacists' Association.

London N.E.—At a meeting of the North London Pharmacists' Association on March 27, an instructive lantern-lecture was given by Professor H. G. Greenish on *The Collection and Commerce of Drugs*. Slides were shown of the cultivation of medicinal plants at home and abroad, and of methods of transportation to the distributing centres and sale-rooms. A vote of thanks was accorded to the lecturer, on the motion of the Chairman (Mr. J. Noble).

Newcastle.—In furtherance of the Pharmaceutical Society's scheme of federation, a district meeting, comprising the pharmacists in the North-Eastern area of England, was held at the County Hotel, Newcastle, on March 26. The meeting was in the nature of a private conference, and the chair was taken by Mr. John Harrison, Sunderland. Mr. W. J. Uglov Woolcock (the Society's Local Associations Officer) and eighty-eight chemists were present. The Chairman inaugurated the proceedings by speaking on the Federation Scheme. Mr. Woolcock then addressed the meeting, and a general discussion followed, in which many points affecting the pharmaceutical service under the National Insurance Act were dealt with. At the close of the discussion, Mr. Jas. Gibson (President of the Newcastle Association) proposed a motion of confidence in the Council of the Pharmaceutical Society, which was seconded by Mr. Nimmo (President of the Sunderland Association), and carried unanimously. Votes of thanks to Mr. Harrison for his presence in the chair, and to Mr. Woolcock for his services, were also given.

Nottingham.—The last social meeting of the session of the Nottingham and Notts Pharmaceutical Association was held at the Victoria Station Hotel on Wednesday evening, April 2. The question of unremunerative proprietaries came under discussion, and the opinion of the meeting was that any attempt to influence the manufacturers to protect or secure more profitable rates would be waste labour, and that considering the present and probable future decline in the sale of most of these articles they were not worth bothering about. The humours of Insurance dispensing also received a share of attention.

Whitehaven.—A meeting of the Whitehaven Chemists' Association was held on March 28. Mr. H. Hunter (President) was in the chair, supported by six members and the

Hon. Secretary. Mr. F. Pilkington Sargeant delivered an address on *The Pharmaceutical Society*, and was accorded a vote of thanks. A general discussion afterwards took place.

FESTIVITIES.

Social Evening.

The series of social evenings now forming a special feature of the programme of the Chemists' Assistants' Association was brought to a close by a smoking-concert held at 73 New-man Street, W., on March 27. The President (Mr. P. B. Phillips) presided over a rather small gathering. Songs were contributed by Messrs. G. Jones, Davy, and R. Malone, and pianoforte solos by Messrs. Phillips, Sherry, and C. W. Gosling. Mr. Lownsbrough also gave recitations in his inimitable style.

Birkenhead Dinner.

The annual dinner of the Birkenhead and Wirral Pharmacists' Association was held on March 27 at the Woodside Hotel, Birkenhead. There was an exceptionally good attendance, and the gathering was generally admitted to be the most successful the Association has held. Mr. C. Woodfield Cooke (Hoylake, President) was in the chair, and the guests included Sir Edward Evans, J.P., Dr. C. Symes (Liverpool), Mr. J. W. Deakin, J.P. (Northwich, President of the County Federation), and Mr. Humphrey Jones (President of the Liverpool Association). Sir Edward Evans proposed the toast "The Pharmaceutical Society," and said the craft in which they were all engaged is going through rather serious and strenuous times, and cool heads and calm judgments are required. They are face to face with the fact that about a fourth of the population of this country are now paying a certain sum of money for benefits to accrue. Having paid that money, they may be quite sure that the assured persons will see that they get the benefits. Fortunately for their (the chemists') craft—and ho, as a wholesaler, coupled himself with the retailers—a most important thing has taken place, and that is a recognition by the State that in the interests of the assured the dispensing of medicines should be undertaken by those who are best qualified to dispense them. (Hear, hear.) This was the first time in the history of the country that this had been laid down by legislation. He was glad to think that, taking the trade as a whole, the members have accepted the situation and have cordially assisted in carrying out the Act. One great service that had been rendered had been undoubtedly a strengthening of the local Chemists' Associations. The question that has now to be considered, and will very shortly be considered, is as to whether the remuneration that is offered under the Act is sufficient to effectively carry it on. There again he would suggest that calm and cool judgment is necessary, because they have a distinct promise from the Chancellor of the Exchequer that if at the end of three months it can be proved to him that the service rendered is not sufficiently remunerated, either as far as the medical profession is concerned or the pharmacists, the matter will be reconsidered, and further grants made. (Hear, hear.) Dr. Charles Symes, in responding to the toast, humorously observed at the outset that he thought Sir Edward Evans had been reading last week's CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST very carefully, because the writer of the leading article in that issue got quite jubilant over the National Insurance Act. Well, he (Dr. Symes) himself hailed the Act with a considerable amount of pleasure, because it had established what they had always felt to be right—that the doctor should prescribe and the chemist should dispense. (Hear, hear.) If chemists have been driven to go in for a large number of accessory things, it is because they have to live, and because they have not had their full share of what is their legitimate right. Gradually, as the working of the Act settles down, this right will be more and more established. On the other hand, now that people can go to a duly qualified man and get advice for nothing, he thought chemists will be very glad to get out of the prescribing they have been asked to do in the past. Mr. J. W. Deakin submitted the toast "The Local Association," and the President responded. During the evening an excellent programme of music and recitations was gone through.

A VERY CANNY SCOT.—The young couple were gazing into the chemist's shop-window. "That's fine-looking scent," remarked the damsel: "I can actually smell it in the street here." The swain shivered a little—perhaps, poor fellow, his money had taken unto itself wings. "Let's go in and ask to see a copy of the doctors' panel," he suggested. "You'll be able to smell it even better then."

Contracts.

Settlement of the following contracts has been notified:
Atherstone Guardians.—Parkinson & Son, for chemists' goods.

Barnstaple Guardians.—Mr. E. W. Proudman, chemist. Barnstaple, for cod-liver oil at 5s. 4d. per gal. and quinine at 1s. 3d. per oz.

Belper Guardians.—J. Calvert & Son, chemists, Belper, for drug supply.

Blackburn Guardians.—C. A. Critchley & Co., chemists, for the supply of drysalts' sundries to the Cottage Homes Committee for the ensuing half-year.

Bolton Guardians.—Messrs. Corby, Stacey & Co., Ltd., for drugs; Waller & Riley, Ltd., for druggists' sundries; Joseph Taylor & Co., Ltd., for Izal and Sanitas fluids; T. Moscrop & Co., Ltd., for acid, disinfectant fluid, toilet soap, and turpentine substitute; Mrs. E. Higson, bed-pan mops; McDougall Bros., for disinfectant fluid.

Cheadle and Gatley Urban Council.—Exors. of the late W. Sharratt, Manchester, for disinfectants.

Chelmsford Joint Hospital Board.—Mr. H. Jenkins, Chelmsford, for drugs, dressings, etc.

Chester Board of Guardians.—Cheers & Hopley, chemists, Chester, for drugs.

Christchurch Guardians.—Bournemouth Pharmaceutical Association for medicines and drugs for outdoor poor at Bournemouth on the same terms as provided by the drug tariff under the National Insurance Act; Mr. A. H. Owen, chemist, Christchurch, and Mr. P. T. Tugwell, chemist, Highcliffe, for medicines and drugs for outdoor poor in their respective districts on similar terms.

Daventry Board of Guardians.—Mr. A. Harrison, chemist, Daventry, for disinfectants.

Derby Town Council.—Mr. T. M. Evans, chemist, Messrs. R. Daniel & Son, and Mr. W. H. Thompson, for disinfectants.

East Grinstead Guardians.—W. H. Dixon & Sons, chemists, East Grinstead, for drugs and medicines.

Eastry (Kent) Guardians.—Mr. A. E. Woodruff, pharmacist, Eastry, for chemists' sundries.

Evesham Guardians.—Mr. W. J. Craven, chemist, Evesham, for drugs.

Faversham Guardians.—Mr. T. J. Thomas, pharmacist, Faversham, appointed chemist for a year.

Faversham Rural Council.—Mr. E. Withers, pharmacist, Faversham, appointed chemist for a year.

Gloucester City Council.—Mr. H. R. Broad and Mr. W. Walwin, chemists, Gloucester, for disinfectants.

Gloucester Guardians.—Sanitas Co., Ltd., for disinfecting fluid, sulphur, etc. Mr. G. Bartle and Mr. W. G. Slatter appointed emergency chemists.

Greenwich Guardians.—Baiss Bros. & Stevenson, Ltd., for drugs; Mr. W. G. Taylor, of Birmingham, for surgical dressings; S. Maw, Son & Sons, for surgical sundries; J. G. Ingram & Son, for water-beds, etc.

Hastings Guardians.—Mr. T. G. Richards, Hastings, for disinfectants.

Hinckley Board of Guardians.—Knight & Crofts, chemists and druggists, Hinckley, for chemists' goods.

Isle of Thanet Board of Guardians.—Jeyes' Sanitary Compounds Co., Ltd., for disinfectants.

Leyton Urban Council.—Mr. T. H. Seed, chemist, Leyton, for drugs and chemists' and druggists' sundries for the hospital; Edwards' Climax Sanitary Compounds Co., disinfectants, poison-bottles, etc.; Adcocks, Ltd., for disinfectant blocks and sulphur candles.

Ludlow Guardians.—G. Woodhouse & Son, chemists, Ludlow, for Bovril at 4s. 9½d. per lb.; cod-liver oil, 6½d. per lb.; ditto emulsion, 5½d.; and quinine, 10½d. per oz.

Malling (Kent) Guardians.—Mr. H. C. H. Oliver, chemist, West Malling, for medical necessities.

Merthyr Tydfil Board of Guardians.—Mr. H. R. Davis, 133 High Street, Merthyr, for drugs.

Milton Regis (Kent) Board of Guardians.—Usher's Drug-stores, Sittingbourne, for chemists' goods at 36l. 12s.

Newent Guardians.—Newent Drug Co., for trusses.

Newport (Salon) Guardians.—Mr. C. R. Picken, chemist, for the supply of drugs.

Nuneaton Guardians.—Boots, Ltd., for chemists' goods.

Perth.—Mr. J. J. Forbes, chemist and druggist, 7 Scott Street, Perth, for the Royal Infirmary's supply of drugs.

Peterborough Guardians.—Mr. T. J. Calcutt, chemist, Peterborough, for drugs.

Portsmouth Guardian.—McDougall Bros., Manchester, for disinfecting powder; Manners & Hopkinson, for drugs, at 37½ per cent. off list prices.

Semington (Wilts) Guardians.—Mr. E. J. Hughes, chemist, Melksham, for chemicals.

Sittingbourne Urban Council.—Usher's Drug-stores, Sittingbourne, for disinfectants.

South Stoneham Guardians.—Mr. C. T. Steel, chemist, Bitterne, for medical requisites.

Southampton Guardians.—Randall & Son, chemists, Southampton, for the supply of drugs.

Stepney Guardians.—Drugs, Corby, Stacey & Co., Ltd., at 9l. 13s. 2½d., and Stafford Homes 234l. 11s. 1½d.

Stourbridge Board of Guardians.—Mr. Smith, chemist and druggist, Wordsley, for various drugs and appliances.

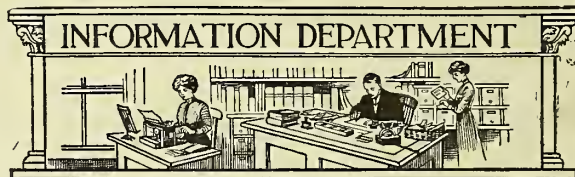
Strood (Kent) Guardians.—Mr. W. E. Clarke, Ph.C., Strood, appointed chemist.

Thame Urban Council.—Mr. Bayley, Thame, for disinfectants.

Thrapston Board of Guardians.—Sturton & Sons, Ltd., chemists, Peterborough, for drugs.

Warrington Guardians.—For six months' supplies: Drugs, Corby, Stacey & Co., Ltd.; surgical dressings, etc., Messrs. A. Brown, Ltd., Leicester.

Wirral Guardians.—Mr. John Fawcett, chemist, The Village, Bebington, for drugs, etc.



Postal Address:

C. & D. INFORMATION DEPARTMENT, 42 Cannon Street, London, E.C.

Telegraphic Address: "CHEMISTS CANNON LONDON" (two words).

Telephone Number: BANK 832 (two lines).

INFORMATION WANTED.

Would any reader who knows please inform us by postcard or telephone of the names and addresses of the agents or makers of the articles mentioned in the following inquiries:

- 24/29. "Agmel": supply.
- 26/55. Quintell's sign-marker.
- 19/36. "Spermalozone": supply.
- 20/34. "Rose de Filka" perfume.
- 28/23. Pearson's "Asbrona": supply.
- 20/4. "Darmstadt Cachets": makers.
- 28/19. Pearson's inflator (for deafness).
- 20/3. "Anserol" embrocation: makers.
- 15/50. Drucquer's tooth-powder: suppliers.
- 17/43. "Conf. Paramilla with Menthol": suppliers.
- 12/65. "Homo-Quinine": what is it, and who makes?
- 26/47. Bartlett's patent poison-guards (for shop-rounds).
- 28/22. Peppermint lozenges about size of shilling, marked "D D" one side and "London" on the other.

INFORMATION SUPPLIED.

During the past week we have answered inquiries as to where the following articles are obtainable wholesale. We shall be glad to repeat the information to others who send to this Department a stamped and addressed envelope for the purpose.

- | | |
|---|---|
| Antithermoline, 26/130 | "Komo" preparations, 24/44 |
| "Ballykinrain" ant-de-stroyer, 25/27 | Kinstips, 25/51 |
| Battle's "Bromidia," 24/100 | Kymol, 20/47 |
| Bromol, 24/120 | Lactated iron-tablets, 23/2 |
| Cleansing comb (patent), 24/11 | Lifebelt coffee, 20/35 |
| Digitalin granules (Nativelle), 26/62 | "Lotus" toilet-paper, 24/39 |
| Epsom salts (Glasgow makers), 23/25 | Muiracithin, 26/13 |
| Ethane pentachloride, 22/24 | Ovarin, 23/14 |
| Evans' throat-pastilles, 25/54 | "Pearl" toilet-roll, 26/552 |
| "Excellens" vulcanite combs, 25/41 | Peptone (Witte), 21/26 |
| Feuilles poudrées, 23/52 | Perborin, 24/12 |
| Fruitatives, 26/55 | "Phistol" embrocation (export inquiry), 28/24 |
| Gayetty's toilet-paper, 26/56 | Poulticine, 24/10 |
| Gelatin (Coignet), 26/550 | Powder papers, 23/520 |
| Gum Damar (for Belgium), 22/33 | Saxolite, 23/15 |
| Haensel's terpeneless lavender oil, 25/28 | Slade's preparations, 28/19 |
| "Ideal" octagon bottles, 24/101 | Sodium perborate, 23/38 |
| Indian produce exporters, 25/64 | Tricofilina, 26/37 |
| | Trypsin, 23/20 |
| | "Toinoco" handkerchiefs, 24/31 |
| | Tucker's asthma-cure, 28/18 |
| | Vapo-Naphthol, 23/23 |
| | Vegetol, 26/551 |
| | "Vita-leo" preparations, 22/25 |
| | Zymole, 24/16 |

OBSERVATIONS AND REFLECTIONS.

By Xrayser II.

What is the Explanation

of the curious fact that from several districts in Scotland there is going to be ample funds wherewith to pay the pharmacists' accounts for drugs supplied under the Insurance Act, whereas in England there appears to be exactly the opposite condition of affairs? To one who has no knowledge of the difference it makes to the amount of medicine swallowed when one has to pay for his bottle to the chemist as well as for his advice to the doctor, the phenomenon might be perplexing. In reality, however, there is no difficulty in finding the explanation. Where the doctor dispenses his own prescriptions it is frequently, almost invariably, I should say, the case that a bottle of medicine forms the culmination, so to speak, of every consultation and almost every visit. The patient has been trained to expect it, and the doctor finds it pays him to play up to that expectation. Hence the six-ounce mixture in ounce doses is exceedingly frequent in a course of treatment. Where, on the other hand, the patient finds that he must pay for his medicine apart from the advice, and where the doctor writes prescriptions, it is commonly the custom for smaller doses to be prescribed, and for much less medicine to be taken. This in the case of the Insurance Act applies in more ways than one. The pharmacist who never had any dispensing before the Act now gets a large number of prescriptions, and the business is really new business; the man who has in the past done a dispensing-business finds that much of his paying trade has been lost, with no new business by way of compensation. To the latter class the Act has been an undoubted hardship, just as to the former it is a great boon.

The Use of the Telephone

as a medium for conveying medical prescriptions to the pharmacist is not confined to Copenhagen. It is the daily experience of all of us, and often it is an experience that we would be glad to avoid, even though it means business. It is surprising that we so seldom hear of mistakes committed in the taking of messages over the 'phone, and the rarity of such mistakes is a proof of the high level of education and experience of the men at both ends of the wire. One of the added responsibilities to a pharmacist's work, as compared with that of the ordinary shopkeeper, is that he cannot trust the taking of telephone messages to ignorant or unskilled clerks. A wrongly taken message may mean life or death, and thus every conscientious pharmacist feels unhappy when a prescription comes along if he or a trusted assistant has not been at the taking of it. What this means in times of stress of business only those know who have to go through it day after day. I don't know whether we are much worried by the class of difficulties that seem to haunt the imagination of our Danish friends, but it has often occurred to me that there ought to be some check on the accuracy of prescriptions sent by 'phone, either in the doctor following it up with his written recipe or the pharmacist sending a copy of what he has dispensed to the doctor.

The Sweating

of their employés by sub-postmasters, said a witness before the Select Committee now inquiring into the conditions of Post-Office work, is inevitable while they are themselves sweated by the Department. "Why, if so badly paid, do you not resign?" asked the Chairman. The answer was that, badly paid as they are, sub-postmasters can rarely afford to forgo the little they do get from the office; but the fact that a man is too poor to refuse an inadequate salary is no reason (or perhaps it is a reason?) why a great Department of the State should underpay him. That sub-postmasters are underpaid is admitted by the Department itself. When the Duke of Norfolk was Postmaster-General a circular to

that effect was sent to all sub-postmasters in reply to a memorial from their Union asking for better terms; but his Grace added that the collateral advantages accruing to them amply made up for their small salaries. I was at the time sub-postmaster of a little market town, my net income from this source being, as the Income-tax Commissioners admitted, under 40*l*. About

£10,000 was Passing through my Hands

annually, in cash, stamps, and postal orders, for every penny of which I was responsible; all losses from mistakes had to be made good out of my own pocket, and twice I had had to enlarge my office at my own expense. An application for an increase of salary had just been met, after eighteen months' inquiry, by an advance of 17*s*. 6*d*. per annum, which seems to show that I was being paid on about the usual scale. The chief "collateral advantages" were a certain protection against opposition and a better chance of selling my business if I wanted to do so. On the other hand (as I told the Postmaster-General), I not unfrequently offended customers because I could not ignore rules on their behalf; having two clerks and four letter-carriers under me this was impossible, even had I been disposed to break rules. These personal details may perhaps be excused as a contribution to the discussion of a subject of importance to many pharmacists. The moral I would draw is that where there is room and opportunity for the natural expansion of business a post-office is often a doubtful advantage to a tradesman.

Many Names Famous in Physic

occur in Mr. Bell's fascinating "Fleet Street in Seven Centuries." The only old house of any note now left standing in Bolt Court (in which Dr. Johnson found his last home, and where he died) is No. 3, formerly the residence of Dr. John Lettson, and given by him to the Medical Society of London, of which he was one of the founders. The house still belongs to the Society, whose home it was from 1787 to 1850, and the emblematical tablet with the figure of Isis, the mother of medicine, with the Sphinx and the coiled serpent on either side of her, placed there by Lettson, still remains over the entrance. Lettson was the most popular doctor of his time, a member of many learned societies, and a voluminous writer on all sorts of subjects, but he is perhaps best remembered by an epigram which does violence to his character:

If any folk applies to I,
I physies, bleeds, and sweats 'em;
If after that they please to die,
Well, then—I. Lettson,

"I. Lettson" being the usual signature to his prescriptions. In the neighbouring Crane Court there stood, until it was destroyed by fire in 1877, a still more famous house, built in 1670 by Nicholas Barebone (son to "Praisegod Barebones"), which was for seventy years the home of the Royal Society. During part of this time Sir Isaac Newton was the Society's President. It was here that occurred the scene between Sir Hans Sloane and Dr. Woodward which led to the latter's expulsion from the Society. Woodward was a very quarrelsome man, and a witty tongue seems to have been a snare to him. When he slipped and fell in the duel to which he had provoked the famous Dr. Mead, his opponent bade him get up, in the words "Take your life." "Anything but *your* physic"!! was Woodward's reply.

A writer in an Edinburgh paper, commenting on a report of an insured Englishman having to wait seven days for his prescription (and then having the misfortune to lose his medicine on account of the bottle exploding), gravely remarks that perhaps it is just as well the patient did not swallow the potion.

SLUGS IN GARDENS.

They have their exits and their entrances, but there is no entrance when Sanitas Powder is used. This is a fact which all retailers should take note of, and tell their customers when they want a household disinfecting powder that the "Sanitas" preparation serves a double purpose: (1) it is a reliable deodorant and microbe-killer for use in closets, drain openings, and the like; (2) to keep slugs out of the garden by sprinkling the powder all round the bottom of the fence. Mr. W. P. Wright, in *The Garden, Week by Week*, says:—"The particular hint I am going to give you about slugs is to scatter 'Sanitas' Powder on the soil amongst the plants. Slugs simply loathe it."

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BORACIC ACID POWDER , Finest	34/ cwt.	Finest Compound LIQUORICE POWDER	/8 & 1/1b.
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FLOWERS OF SUL- PHUR , Finest English Ditto. Foreign	13/6 cwt. 9/6 ..	Finest Levigated "WHITE EARTH" (Toilet purposes)	18/ cwt.
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Editorial Articles.

The Pharmaceutical Year.

THE first indications that the time is approaching for the Councillors of the Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain to give an account of their stewardship during the Council year 1912-13 are furnished to-day in the accounts for 1912 and the nominations for seven vacancies in the Council which have to be filled on May 22. We believe that general regret will be manifested at the retirement of Dr. Charles Symes and Mr. G. T. W. Newsholme, whom we name in order of seniority as Councillors. Dr. Symes was first returned as a member in 1879, at a time when the Chemists' and Druggists' Trade Association of Great Britain was pouring sap into the dry bones of Bloomsbury. He was a member of the Council of the Association, and one of the first of the Councillors to be elected to the Pharmaceutical Council. He has served on it continuously since with one or two short intervals, the last being from May 1909 (when he was defeated at the poll) until May 1910, when he stood again to prove that the electors still thought well of him, and was returned. He now retires with honour, one of the most popular men in British pharmacy. He was President of the British Pharmaceutical Conference in 1897 and 1898. How the Pharmaceutical Council has succeeded in allowing him to serve the Society for more than thirty years without honouring him by the vice-presidency is one of those things which the uninitiated cannot understand and the informed may be asked to explain. Mr. Newsholme entered the Council in 1887 as a "Muter's Man" who had passed the Major examination ten years before, so that he was still young, and the modesty of youth was tempered by the presence on the Council of his business predecessor, Mr. W. V. Radley, and later of his own uncle, Mr. Robert W. Radley.

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PHARMACEUTICAL FORMULAS. (8th Ed.) 10/-, by Post 10/6.
ART OF DISPENSING. (9th Ed.) 580 pages. 6/-, by Post 6/4.
VETERINARY COUNTER PRACTICE. (6th Ed.) 4/-, by Post 4/4.

THE CHEMIST-OPTICIAN. 4/-, by Post 4/3.
DISEASES AND REMEDIES. (4th Ed.) 3/-, by Post 3/3.
THE CHEMISTS' MEDICAL DICTIONARY. 2/6, by Post, 2/8.
THE CHEMISTS' DICTIONARY OF SYNONYMS. 2/6, by Post 2/8.

"THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST," 42 CANNON ST., E.C.

Mr. Newsholme soon proved to be one of the best workers on the Council, and the beginning of his second decade on it was signalled by his election as Vice-President. During part of his three years in that office Mr. W. Martindale, President in 1899-1900, had to go abroad, and Mr. Newsholme's conduct in the chair was rewarded by his election to the presidency in 1900. He thus broke the established precedent that the Society's President must be a London man, and he held that office for three years. It is a singular distinction for a provincial pharmacist, and Mr. Newsholme proved his fitness for the high office. He now retires because Sheffield wants him to continue as the head of its Poor-Law system, and he, very wisely we think, conserves his strength and gives the younger race of pharmacists a chance to serve pharmacy as a councillor.

For some years the best friends of the Society, including the councillors, have been concerned regarding its financial condition, particularly as legitimate sources of income have been exhausted and expenditure in certain departments persists in rising. The condition is fairly illustrated by the following contrast of the main sources of income and expenditure in 1902 and 1912:

	1902	1912
TOTAL INCOME	£17,411	£16,943
Derived from:		
Examination, etc., fees	9,555	6,909
Interest	327	550
School-fees	1,173	1,416
Subscriptions	6,336	7,820
TOTAL EXPENDITURE	16,306	16,187
On		
Examinations	3,062	1,821
"Journal" and postage	2,204	2,852
Library and Museum	962	892
North British Branch	883	1,113
Organisation	—	939
Repairs and alterations	1,151	145
Salaries	1,595	2,043
School of Pharmacy	2,311	2,459

It will be seen that the Society is paying heavily for altering the Preliminary and Minor examinations, losing more than a thousand a year of Preliminary examination fees, besides as much from diminished entries for the Minor. What is worse, it is now faced with the nemesis of the increased stringency. We recall the fact that THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST foretold both conditions when the Council were driving hotheaded to force the pace, and our unheeded warnings have now received endorsement from an unexpected quarter. It will be observed that otherwise the income and expenditure of the other departments keep on a level with a few exceptions, such as the Journal, North British Branch, and salaries. A new item appears—viz., organisation—upon which 939*l.* was spent last year; and little enough, considering that the Society has been getting many thousands a year from the rank and file with little visible return. We print the accounts for 1912, along with the figures for 1911, elsewhere in this issue. It will be noted that there is a balance to the good of 756*l.*, whilst there was a deficit in 1911. This is due in part to the profit of 5,088*l.* on examinations, which pays all the declared salaries and wages of the staffs in England and Scotland, as well as the rent, taxes, and insurance, giving the members of the Society the use of all these for nothing. The hope for the future lies in continued economy and strict attention to the statutory business of the Society. In 1909-11 the loss on the "British Pharmaceutical Codex" was 1,071*l.*; 1912 showed a balance to the good of 247*l.*, reducing the loss to 824*l.* It would be better for the Society if this sort of thing

were discontinued, now that the National Insurance Act has demonstrated that the Society can work to so much greater trade advantage in organisation of pharmacists.

Cocaine in India.

IN spite of the difficulties surrounding the importation and sale of cocaine in India, the consumption of the drug is steadily increasing throughout the country. "The Statesman," in its issue of February 27, deals with the position in Calcutta, which seems to resemble the conditions in Bombay. It appears that this illicit trade, which was at first confined to low-class Indians with a more respectable lot behind them, has now many ramifications, and has unfortunately drawn into it a number of people of position and standing. The reasons for this accession to the gangs of smugglers are not far to seek, as the following paragraph from "The Statesman" testifies:

"In the case of no other class of goods which can be smuggled into the country are the risks so infinitesimal and the prospects of a successful run so alluring. Every ounce of cocaine, which can be purchased on the Continent of Europe, especially in Germany, for about 12*s.* to 15*s.*, would realise here [Calcutta], by selling it in 2 and 4 pice packets, which are to be had all over the town, anything between Rs. 125 to Rs. 150, and when it is further considered that there is a large admixture of flour and other white substances with the drug sold in these packets, it is not overstating the matter to say that Rs. 200 and more can be realised by the sale of a single ounce broken up and vended in these packets in this way. Add to this the difficulty of detection, and the further fact that the Courts have no power to inflict a heavier penalty than three months' imprisonment upon a convicted offender, and one ceases to wonder that so many men should be engaged in this illicit traffic."

Quite young boys sell these packets. Most of the sales are conducted in the streets, and the devices adopted to avoid detection are elaborate and ingenious. This year already over 500 captures have been made, against 250 for the whole of last year, and the largest seizure was one of 19 oz. There are, however, very few cases in which the officers of the Excise Department have been instrumental in detecting men smuggling direct from vessels in the port into the town, almost all the cases being against retail sellers. There are hundreds of dens in and around Calcutta in which cocaine is sold, but it is extremely difficult, if not impossible, to catch these men napping, as in nearly every case there are two or three exits to these dens.

The cocaine habit, which was at first confined to the lower classes, has now spread to people of position in Indian society, and unfortunately to young boys. As soon as one den is suppressed another is opened, and if a man is convicted but not sentenced to imprisonment, he will be at the same game on the following day. In one case, a man who had a very small quantity was detained by the Magistrate until 5 p.m., and two hours later was re-arrested with sixty packets in his possession. Mr. Baboneau, a collector of Excise, stated that in Calcutta the illicit sales of cocaine amounted to 2 maunds (164 lb.) per week. The only remedy for the present state of things is to so arrange that manufacturers would not sell to anyone unless the order is supported by a Government certificate. Another high official said it is abundantly clear that the illicit importation of cocaine is very large, and this illegitimate trade has grown up to satisfy the demand of an ever-increasing consumption in the local market.

Proprietary Medicine Sales.

The following statement was made in "The Times" of March 31:

As was anticipated by "The Times" when the Insurance Bill was before Parliament, one effect of the administration

of Medical Benefit has been to curtail considerably the sale of popular proprietary remedies as well as of simple remedies for minor ailments, a series of which is stocked by practically all chemists. The decrease in the demand for these articles has been noticed more especially by pharmacists in industrial centres, where a large proportion of the population belongs to the insured class. In the past large numbers have used proprietary medicines in order to avoid incurring a doctor's bill, but as medical attendance now costs insured persons nothing beyond their compulsory contributions, this reason, in their case, no longer exists. Some chemists estimate the decrease in the sale of proprietary remedies at 20 per cent.; the experience of others is that it is much larger. In some working-class centres, in fact, the nature of the chemist's business has been almost completely changed, and in many pharmacies where the amount of dispensing was formerly negligible, sixty or seventy prescriptions, and in some cases a hundred or more, are made up daily. The revenue from the duty on patent medicines will, of course, be diminished as a result of the declining sales.

We suppose that "The Times" has not made any inquiry on this subject, but that the paragraph which we quote is pharmaceutically inspired. As a matter of fact, there is yet no reliable evidence to go upon, and the time is too short to reckon by. This is the conclusion we come to as the result of inquiry in several directions—manufacturing, wholesale, and retail. A decrease was expected, and is being realised in some retail quarters; but as yet it has not affected the output of the more popular proprietary remedies, nor the turnover of wholesale vendors thereof.

Sloppy Prescribing.

With cheapness as his goddess, Dr. A. H. Hart has issued a "third, or National Insurance, edition" of his book "How to Cut the Drug Bill." The book acquired some notoriety owing to its production to the Select Committee on Patent Medicines by one of the witnesses. The system consists briefly in ordering by letters mixtures from formulae devised for the sake of cheapness. If, for example, the lightning prescriber wants to order a salicylate and colchicum mixture—it is stated to be "useful in asthma, cerebral congestion, acute and rheumatic gout, influenza, acute and muscular rheumatism, acute tonsillitis, and uræmia"—he puts down the letters "M. C. S." A good deal depends upon the care with which the prescriber writes this—the system is intended to save brain-fag—if, *e.g.*, his brain should be a little fagged and he writes "M. C. P." the patient would receive a copaiba mixture which, however, might hit one or two of the diseases for which "M. C. S." is useful. In the new preface the author seems to desire that the book should "eventually become an indispensable necessity for the pharmaceutical chemist, who, under the provisions of the National Insurance Act, will dispense the doctors' prescriptions." We hope sincerely that the sloppy practices advocated in this book will not spread to the chemist.

WESTMINSTER WISDOM.

The Week in Parliament.

THE OPIUM QUESTION.

Mr. Theodore Taylor, M.P., has given notice to call attention on April 23 to the opium traffic in the East, and to move a resolution.

ACETONE MANUFACTURE.

The President of the Board of Agriculture has informed Mr. Bathurst that it is hoped to commence in July next wood distillation in the Government factory in the Forest of Dean.

THE BUDGET.

Among the suggestions which are being made to the Chancellor of the Exchequer in view of the introduction

of his financial statement, is one by Mr. Joseph King, M.P., to the effect that in view of the increased values of medical practices owing to the National Insurance Act, he should consider the propriety of imposing an increment duty on transferred medical practices. It is expected that the Budget statement will be made on Tuesday, April 15.

TAX ON MOTOR SPIRIT.

The Chancellor of the Exchequer has informed Sir J. B. Lonsdale that the use of paraffin as motor fuel has not appreciably affected the yield of the tax on motor spirit. It is still in a somewhat experimental stage, but the possibility of its further development has not been lost sight of. It can be taxed as motor spirit if it should come into general use on its capacity being established for providing reasonably efficient motive power.

MILK AND DAIRIES BILL.

The President of the Board of Trade has now reintroduced his Bill of last Session for making better provision with respect to the sale of milk and the regulation of dairies. One of the clauses provides for an amendment of the Sale of Food and Drugs Acts, so that a warranty or invoice shall not be available to a dairyman as a defence to any proceedings under the Acts where the article in respect of which the proceedings are taken is milk.

VENTILATION OF THE HOUSE.

On the introduction by Dr. Addison, M.P., Dr. Leonard Hill, F.R.S., lecturer on physiology at the London Hospital Medical School, conducted a series of experiments in the lobbies of the House of Commons on Tuesday evening, with a view to ascertaining the rate of heat loss in the body politic. Dr. Hill's recent work on the influence of oxygen in stimulating muscular exertion is well known, also his work on the "Causation of Caisson Disease," but which of these suggested the present inquiry has not transpired.

NATIONAL INSURANCE ACT.

MEDICAL BENEFIT FOR IRELAND.—Mr. T. M. Healy and Mr. Wm. O'Brien had long questions on the paper for the Chancellor of the Exchequer to answer regarding the appointment of the Committee of Inquiry now taking evidence in Ireland.

MEDICAL AID IN THE HIGHLANDS.—It is stated that representations are about to be made to the Chancellor of the Exchequer for an adequate grant in order to carry out the recommendations of Sir John Dewar's Committee in reference to medical aid in the Highlands and the Islands of Scotland. A sum of 10,000*l.* has already been granted, and this is regarded as a fair provision, but the Chancellor is to be urged to make an annual grant of 42,000*l.*

POISONS AND PHARMACY ACT.

Mr. Charles Bathurst asked the Home Secretary on April 2 whether he is aware that the Council of the Pharmaceutical Society has not up to the present taken any steps to make bye-laws under Section 4 (b) of the Poisons and Pharmacy Act, 1908, providing for the registration as pharmaceutical chemists or chemists and druggists under the Pharmacy Acts, 1852 and 1868, of, among others, certified assistants to apothecaries under the Apothecaries Act, 1815; and whether he will take any and, if any, what steps to induce the Council to pass such bye-laws without further loss of time.—The Home Secretary said he had nothing to add to the reply he gave to a similar question by the hon. member for Salisbury on February 6 last, except to say that the matter is receiving the continuous and careful attention of the Privy Council.

[Mr. Bathurst informed our Parliamentary representative that he very much doubts whether the Home Office has power under the Act of 1908 to insist upon the Pharmaceutical Society admitting these licensed apothecaries' assistants. As he read the Act, he did not think that they had that power. Personally, he regarded it as only permissive.]

THE EXPORTS OF KAURI GUM from New Zealand during 1912 amounted to 7,908 tons, valued at 401,305*l.*, against 7,587 tons, valued at 395,707*l.*, in 1911

National Health Insurance.

Administration of Medical Benefit as regards Chemists' Interests.

Medical Benefit for Ireland.

As briefly reported in our issue of March 29, Mr. D. M. Watson, Vice-President of the Pharmaceutical Society of Ireland, gave evidence at the sitting in Dublin on Thursday, March 27, of the Committee appointed to inquire into the desirability of extending Medical Benefit under the National Insurance Act to Ireland. The following members of the Committee were present: Mr. H. T. Barrie, M.P. (who presided in the absence of the Chairman, Lord Ashby St. Ledgers), Mr. Joseph Devlin, M.P., Mr. J. C. R. Lardner, M.P., Mr. J. A. Glynn (Chairman Irish National Insurance Commissioners), Dr. W. J. Maguire (Medical Commissioner of the Irish National Insurance Commissioners), Dr. T. J. Stafford, C.B. (Medical Commissioner of the Local Government Board of Ireland), and Mr. W. L. Micks (of the Congested Districts Board of Ireland).

Mr. Watson stated that he appeared on behalf of the Pharmaceutical Society of Ireland, and did not act in concert with the English Society. He read the following statement:

The following are the points which I have been asked to submit to the Committee on behalf of the Pharmaceutical Society of Ireland, and, although we have scarcely had time to consult with our Licentiates all over Ireland, I think it may be taken for granted that we shall have the support of all Irish pharmacists in what we ask:

(a) That the dispensing contemplated under the Bill should be done under the direct supervision of a pharmacist.

(b) That no agreement for the supply of medicines for insured persons should be made except with a person or firm entitled to carry on the statutory business of a pharmaceutical chemist.

(c) That the control of medical and pharmaceutical services to insured persons be in the hands of the Health Committees (subject to regulations passed by the Commissioners), and not under the control of Friendly Societies.

(d) That pharmacy should be represented on the Health Committees, and on the Advisory Committee, or the Insurance Commission.

(e) That remuneration should be by a scale system, and not upon a *per capita* basis.

(f) That a panel of all qualified pharmacists in a particular district willing to arrange for a supply of medicines to insured persons at the scale rate should be set up, so that the insured person could, within the limit of the panel, choose his own pharmacist.

(g) That pharmaceutical benefits should not be extended to persons earning more than 104*l.* per annum.

You will probably consider that some of the points which we have included in our statement are perhaps more for consideration later on, when regulations under the Act are being framed, but our Society are particularly anxious that the proposed Act should contain a provision requiring that no agreement for the supply of medicines for insured persons should be made except with a duly qualified pharmacist. The qualified pharmacist is specified under the Medical Benefit section of the English Act, and, of course, that only carries out the plainly expressed intention of the Chancellor of the Exchequer, who, when introducing his Bill, made it a leading principle that the prescribing and compounding were to be separate and each done by a duly qualified person. The pharmacist was not specifically mentioned in the first draft of the Bill, but is in the Act, at the united request of all the pharmacists of Great Britain and Ireland, and, I think, with the concurrence of the British Medical Association. Of course, special arrangements are authorised allowing the medical man to supply medicines under specified exceptional circumstances. We think that as the duly qualified medical practitioner is mentioned, so should the duly qualified pharmacist, in order to safeguard his interests adequately. The other points which I have detailed have been, with one exception, conceded, either wholly or in part, in the arrangements made for Great Britain, and they all have advantages to the insured person, as well as to the pharmacist. The exception is the income-limit. We ask that the income-limit be made 104*l.* per annum, instead of 160*l.* In Ireland an income of 160*l.* a year indicates a more comfortably circumstanced person than is the case in

England. The 2*l.* per week limit would tend to equalise matters.

Mr. Watson, continuing, said: Since this statement was typed I have received the following from the Secretary, Dublin Retail Drug Association, which comprises most of the pharmacists in business in Dublin:

Sir,—I have pleasure in informing you that the under-mentioned resolution was unanimously passed in respect of the draft which you delivered to me to-day:

"That the seven clauses formulated by the Pharmaceutical Society as the basis of evidence to be given by them before the National Insurance Commissioners on the 27th inst. are hereby approved of by a meeting of the trade held under the auspices of the Dublin Retail Drug Association on the 26th inst."

I am, Sir, yours faithfully,

A. J. BARNES.

Mr. Barrie, M.P.: You claim that the dispensing contemplated under the Act should be done under the direct supervision of a pharmacist. Do you mean a duly qualified pharmaceutical chemist?—Yes, or an apothecary who is also qualified under our Act to keep open shop.

You say that no agreement for the supply of medicines for insured persons should be made except with a person or firm entitled to carry on the statutory business of a pharmaceutical chemist?—Yes; that will be making the dispensing under the Medical Benefit scheme conform with the practice at present in existence for dispensing in shops.

That is antagonistic to any system that would permit Societies or Committees to contract with doctors for services inclusive of medicine. You are opposed to that?—We are, except in exceptional circumstances, which would in some cases arise.

Then your Society disapproves of Approved Societies having control of this matter?—Yes; we think that, apart from everything else, to have control of this portion under the Commissioners is unifying the whole system.

Then you claim representation on the Health Committees?—Yes. We can now speak with some experience of the working of these Committees in Scotland and England, and our information is that the chemists' representatives have been of advantage to the Committees and to the insured persons as well as to themselves on these Committees.

Further examined, Mr. Watson stated that one great reason why the members of the Society were anxious to have a scale system of remuneration was because three or six months' trial would enable them to discover exactly whether it was a profitable scale or not. If the remuneration were on a *per capita* basis, there would not be the same keeping of accounts, and the chemist could not tell whether that branch of his business were remunerative or not. They were sure that the State under any system was not anxious to get any portion of the service at less than its value. A *per capita* basis might be, and in the opinion of some chemists would be, a better arrangement than the other.

Mr. Barrie: But not in the opinion of your Society?—Not in the opinion, I believe, of the majority.

Of course you are aware that the amount of money available for medicines is limited, and that there is a desire to make the best bargain possible for the better quality of medicines?—Of course we know that the amount is limited, and that it is possible on this scale system we may be inside the amount which has been set apart.

Do you suggest that there would be the same competition on your basis that there might be on a *per capita* basis?—Our position is this: that we do not consider that in the case of the supply of medicines very keen competition is desirable. In connection with the supply of medicines under the present Poor-Law system we do not think that the competition which exists is good for the patient.

In what way?—I think that in the opinion of most chemists it is a mystery to all except the contractors how medicines are supplied at the prices at which they are supplied to the Unions.

Are you not aware that there is a very perfect system of testing the quality of the medicines and drugs supplied

to the Poor-Law Unions?—We are aware that there is a Pharmacopœia standard; but the Pharmacopœia standard is not necessarily the highest standard; and for our own business our anxiety is, not to get medicines which will merely pass the standard, but the best quality obtainable.

And you suggest that under the Poor-Law system the highest quality is not always got?—I would not go any further than to say that it is a mystery to most of the wholesale houses how drugs are supplied at the prices they are.

In other words, your Society thinks that the value is in excess of what it should be—that there is more got for the money spent on medicines than would be got under ordinary circumstances?—I think that is the case, assuming you get the top quality.

Mr. Barrie: Your last point seems to be the vexed question of income-limit. That, I am afraid, we shall have very little control over. But we will note your evidence on it.

Mr. Watson: There is one point I overlooked mentioning in connection with the qualification, which many of your members might not be aware of, and that is, that in Ireland we have more than one grade of qualified persons. But the grade that we ask for insertion for supply of medicines under the Act is that of the pharmacist, who alone is authorised under the Pharmacy Act to dispense medicines.

Who are all members of your Society?—Yes, Licentiates or members of our Society.

Replying to Mr. Lardner, M.P., Mr. Watson said that chemists and druggists are entitled to keep open shop for retailing or mixing poisons, but their registration does not confer on them any right to compound medicines. The registered druggist is allowed to do the same thing. The chemist and druggist is a dying-out body. There are in Ireland 922 pharmaceutical chemists, 163 chemists and druggists, and 588 registered druggists. Except under very special circumstances, no person except a pharmaceutical chemist should compound medicines under the Insurance Act if Medical Benefit is extended. They had no objection to the Friendly Societies as such, but they thought that control of the medical and pharmaceutical services to insured persons by the Health Committees, subject to appeal to the Commissioners, was a more unifying way of dealing with the matter.

Mr. Lardner: You say that Pharmacy should be represented on the Health Committees and the Advisory Committee, or the Insurance Commission. Which would you prefer?—We would be in favour of the Insurance Commission, but we scarcely expect to be represented on that.

That claim is dropped?—Yes, I think I may say so.

Witness said, further, that questions arise in connection with the supply of medicines on which the pharmacist is the best man to help the Committee, and not the medical representatives, as Mr. Lardner suggested, because their experience does not keep them in touch with all the details of dispensing. He did not think that putting a pharmaceutical representative on the Health Committee or the Advisory Committee would tend to kill competition.

He further informed the Committee that the experience in Scotland of chemists in the Committees shows that they have been useful. He also explained to the Committee what he meant by panels of qualified pharmacists (*i.e.* the same meaning as in Great Britain), and the reasons for that, Mr. Lardner's questions on the subject winding up with:

I see. The panel is to be a protection against the chemist and druggist and the registered druggist?—It would serve that purpose.

Mr. Watson also replied to questions by Mr. Lardner regarding the suggested limit of income (104%) thus:

Do you think that a man with 104% here is better able to pay for his medicines than a man with 160% in England?—Yes. These two figures equalise as nearly as we can estimate.

Do you know that in that view you differ altogether from the doctors?—That, perhaps, is not surprising. (Laughter.)

Mr. Devlin, M.P.: What forces you to the conclusion that 104% here would come in as good as 160% in England?—Well, the wage-earning in Ireland is lower than it is in

England. I think, from the bottom up, the wages are lower in Ireland.

You speak largely for Dublin?—Yes, I speak largely for Dublin.

Mr. Lardner again took up the running thus:

Do the members of your body make any difference in prices according to persons? Does the man with 12s. a week pay the same price for a prescription as the professional man?—That is not quite the case.

What is the normal price for a mixture—an ordinary 8-oz. bottle?—It varies from 1s. 4d. to 1s. 8d.

That is the Merriion Square price?—Yes, that is the usual price in first-class shops.

Now, for the same bottle given to a poor man what is the price?—It is quite usual for us to get prescriptions from hospitals, and in that case I think the practice is to charge from 10d. to 1s. for what the ordinary charge would be from 1s. 4d. to 1s. 8d. That is a personal statement, because I can only speak for myself.

Is the 10d. a remunerative figure?—Yes. In the case of one we give a little more attention to etceteras.

Do you mean to say that the poor man's prescription is not made up so well as the rich man's?—It must be made up the same. There are certain details in connection with the wrapping, labelling, and sealing, and such things as that.

Mr. Devlin: The only difference is the fastening up of the bottle?—Yes. The poor man is not charged the dispensing-fee, but merely for the contents of the medicine.

So far as the inside of the bottle is concerned, it is all right?—Yes. I think I may fairly say for the Irish chemists that they certainly do not keep two sets of drugs.

Dr. Stafford then questioned the witness in regard to the compilation of the British Pharmacopœia, and the effect of its standards. This was *à propos* of Poor-Law drugs, and Mr. Watson explained that there are many cases in which articles are obtainable of higher quality than B.P. minimum standard, and that many chemists supply the higher quality. He agreed that there should be a system of testing medicines for insured people similar to that afforded under the Poor-Law system. In reply to Dr. Stafford's question:

"There is a very great profit in dispensing drugs on prescriptions?" witness said: "I would say, in connection with that, that the actual cost of the drugs used in prescriptions should not be taken as a criterion of the prices charged. We think that the pharmaceutical chemists, considering the amount of training and examination they go through, are entitled to a professional fee in addition to the mere price of the drugs used."

Thereupon Dr. Stafford added other questions which embodied the warning:

"When we buy in large quantities from the manufacturers we naturally expect that they will give us a large reduction. Is not that reasonable?"

EVIDENCE FOR THE CHEMISTS' AND DRUGGISTS' SOCIETY.

Mr. Samuel Suffern, President of the Chemists' and Druggists' Society of Ireland, was then called, and submitted the following statement:

For many years previous to 1875 the dispensing of drugs and medicines was in the hands of the Licentiates of the Apothecaries' Hall and the chemists and druggists. In that year the Pharmacy Act (Ireland) was passed to establish in Ireland a grade of pharmaceutical chemists, and a second grade of chemists and druggists, both of whom were entitled to dispense medical prescriptions. The Pharmaceutical Council only carried out part of that Act, and established the grade of pharmaceutical chemist, leaving the chemists and druggists, who were the great majority, unregistered.

In 1890 an Act was passed qualifying by examination chemists and druggists and registered druggists who were already carrying on business, and their successors, for selling, mixing, and compounding poisons, but not medical prescriptions. The majority of these are established in working-class districts and the smaller country towns where pharmaceutical chemists do not open shops. They supply all the requirements of the industrial and agricultural population. For example, in the whole county of Antrim there are no suppliers of medicine except chemists and druggists in any of the towns outside of Belfast, Lisburn, Ballymena, Carrickfergus, Portrush, Ballymoney, Ballyclare, Whitehead, and Larne. Such important places as Dunmurry, Lambeg, Glenavy, Crumlin, Antrim, Doagh, Bushmills, Cushendall, Glcnarm, Carnlough, Cullybackey,

Killigan, Armo, and Dunloy are dependent solely on the chemist and druggist or doctors for their medicines. In West Belfast Parliamentary Division there are four pharmaceutical chemists and thirteen chemists and druggists. The following figures show the relative proportions of pharmaceutical chemists and chemists and druggists in different industrial districts in Belfast:

No. 1, Ballymacarrett. Population about 100,000. Chemists and druggists, 23; pharmaceutical chemists, 8.

No. 2, Donegall Road, Falls Road, Shankill Road, Crumlin Road, inclusive of Ligoniel. Population about 140,000 [later corrected to 145,000]. Chemists and druggists, 26; pharmaceutical chemists, 5.

No. 3, North Queen Street and York Road to Docks. Population about 30,000. Pharmaceutical chemists, 2; chemists and druggists, 9.

If the Medical Benefit clauses of the National Insurance Act are applied to Ireland in their present form, at least half the trade of these chemists and druggists will be compulsorily taken from them and handed over to the pharmaceutical chemists. The consequence will be that these traders will be deprived of their livelihood, which would be most unjust and unfair, and would also cause great inconvenience to industrial workers and agricultural labourers, who would then have to go much further for their supplies of medicine.

We hope you will recommend such amendments to the Act as will prevent such a calamity. The members of our Society, though not at present legally qualified to fill prescriptions, are quite capable of doing so, and would be quite willing to submit to any suitable examination to show their ability. Many of them have dispensed prescriptions for limited companies when serving their time in such houses as Grattan & Co., Ltd., Belfast; Kiloh & Co., Ltd., Cork; Hamilton, Long & Co., Ltd., Dublin; but are not allowed, through a legal technicality, to present themselves for examination.

The chemists and druggists have all the facilities for dispensing Insurance prescriptions, their stock of drugs and medical appliances is ample, and they carry on business in those districts where the majority of insured persons reside. (Signed) SAMUEL SUFFERN, President; WM. MARTIN, R. A. JAMISON, Hon. Secretaries.

Mr. Suffern, in the course of his evidence, said that chemists and druggists are the oldest body now selling drugs in Ireland. Before the Pharmacy Act was introduced there were chemists and druggists in Ireland. The number on the Register is 751. They are scattered over the country, and largely in the northern industrial districts. If Medical Benefit is introduced, and if pharmaceutical chemists alone are allowed to dispense prescriptions, they would lose all that business. There are not, in many districts, pharmaceutical chemists to do the work. In one district in Belfast, the largest exclusively industrial district, there is a population of 146,000, and there are only five pharmaceutical chemists. The chemists and druggists claim that as they are already supplying the people in these districts, and that as the pharmaceutical chemists have not thought it worth their while to establish themselves there, the chemists and druggists are entitled to retain that business. If they do not, half the houses will be closed; there is no other business for them.

Replying to Mr. Barrie, witness said his body is not recognised for dispensing drugs, but they now asked that they should be recognised for dispensing Insurance prescriptions. He reiterated his statement that both pharmaceutical chemists and chemists and druggists were recognised by the 1875 Act as dispensers of prescriptions, but the Pharmaceutical Council made a register of the former only. The Amendment Act of 1890 licensed registered druggists and chemists and druggists for the sale of poisons, but not for medical prescriptions. The number of these classes is growing in Belfast, but not over the country.

Mr. Lardner quoted Section 4 of the 1890 Act, viz.:

"Section fifteen of the principal Act, and all other provisions of that Act empowering the Pharmaceutical Society of Ireland to create a grade of chemists and druggists legally qualified to dispense medical prescriptions are hereby repealed."

He also quoted the following extract from Section 5:

"All persons so registered shall be entitled to keep open shop for the retailing or mixing of poisons, provided that

nothing in this Act shall be deemed to confer on such persons any right to compound medical prescriptions."

To the witness: You have not the right to compound medical prescriptions at the present moment?—No, we have not.

How is the extension of Medical Benefit to deprive you of the right to do a thing which you have not the right to do, and which you are prohibited from doing?—By taking the drugs we are now supplying in the ordinary way and putting them in prescription form. The doctors send them to buy this or that or the other thing. The people buy various patent medicines and proprietary articles.

You do not get doctors' prescriptions?—No; but by law you are going to take things sold without doctors' prescriptions before and put them on doctors' prescriptions; and in that way you are taking the business from us.

If you were to put your case fairly, you would put it in this way: "People in the past have come to us for cod-liver oil, Epsom salts, and things of that kind. Under the Act they will get them in the form of a prescription, and they will be bound to go to a pharmaceutical chemist." Is that part of your case?—I would not confine it to cod-liver oil and Epsom salts. There are no prescriptions in these districts.

Does not the whole thing resolve itself into this: that there has been a long-standing quarrel between you and the Pharmaceutical Society?—No; we are perfectly sure that if this Act is passed in its present form it will close the whole of our members.

Are you not asking us to recommend that chemists and druggists should get the right to compound prescriptions?—We are asking you to do something which will allow us to keep the business we are now doing.

Are you asking us to recommend that chemists and druggists should have the right to compound prescriptions?—Yes, Insurance prescriptions.

Are you not asking us to recommend that you should do something which you are prohibited by Act of Parliament from doing?—That is so.

Mr. Lardner suggested that the proper remedy for the chemists and druggists was to promote a private Act of Parliament for their own protection. He asked Mr. Suffern to name half-a-dozen patent medicines which they had been supplying in the past. Mr. Suffern mentioned Hæmatogen, Beecham's Pills, Veno's preparations, Scott's Emulsion, Angier's Emulsion, Holloway's Pills, Carter's Liver Pills, and Dr. Cassell's tablets.

Witness added that chemists and druggists would not be satisfied if they were merely able to fill doctors' prescriptions for such articles; they wanted the right to make up prescriptions. Replying to Mr. Barrie, he said if Medical Benefit is brought in they would not retain their present position. He added, in reply to Mr. Devlin, that if people are to get prescriptions under the Insurance Act they will not buy patent medicines, so the druggists' trade would largely disappear. Mr. Devlin, expressing the greatest possible sympathy with the druggists' position, put a series of questions with the object of ascertaining how they could get over the legal difficulty of not being able to compound prescriptions. Witness maintained that they have as efficient men as in England, where, he pointed out, doctors' dispensers are recognised under the Act. Dr. Stafford then questioned him in regard to Poor-Law dispensing, for which druggists are not recognised, witness admitted, answering "Yes" to Dr. Stafford's final question, "You wish them to be under the Insurance Act?"

Replying to Dr. Maguire, witness stated that the examination for druggists is much lower than that for pharmaceutical chemists, adding, "As a matter of fact, I think the Pharmaceutical Society would be very glad to see us wiped out if possible." Dr. Maguire suggested that the proper course would be to go to the Pharmaceutical Council to get an amending Act to the Act of 1890, whereupon Mr. Devlin asked:

What is the Pharmaceutical Council?—It is elected by the pharmaceutical chemists in Ireland, replied witness. We have two representatives on the present Council; they are nominated but not elected. There are twenty-one

members on the Council. The pharmaceutical chemists co-opt our two representatives. We have a right to elect a certain number up to seven, provided we have enough members who subscribe 1*l.* each to the Society each year. We have a right to seven out of the twenty-one.

And yet you have only two members. Don't you think, if this matter was so vital to your organisation as your evidence suggests that it is, that the chemists and druggists ought to have exercised that power, by paying 1*l.*, of having representatives on this body? This is a reform that must be carried out from within. You have the option of electing seven, but you don't exercise that right?—They could vote those seven out. We are not entitled to more than seven. That is the way that it is put.

You are entitled to seven?—We are not entitled if we have not a majority to put them in.

Mr. Devlin: I think you ought to organise. Not being a lawyer on the Committee, I can afford to give that advice free. (Laughter.)

Witness disclaimed Mr. Barrie's suggestion that there are trade-union prices in patent medicines, and, in reply to Dr. Stafford, said he did not think such medicines would be much prescribed under the Insurance Act, also that it would not be possible to put druggists on the panel for compounding drugs, although, he said, people without qualification can compound in England. He did not go so far as saying that a grocer should compound a doctor's prescription, adding: "We have compounded worse things than doctors' prescriptions—public prescriptions that the public write out themselves. It is more important that a good man should compound them than doctors' prescriptions. The doctors' prescriptions will be right."

After a question or two from Mr. Devlin on this point, witness maintaining his position, and in reply to Dr. Maguire, he said the effect of Medical Benefit on druggists' trade would be that people would only buy half the quantity of patent medicines that they do at present. This concluded his evidence.

MR. GIBSON GIVES EVIDENCE.

Mr. Samuel Gibson, J.P., Vice-President of the Chemists' and Druggists' Society of Ireland, stated that he had been a member of the Pharmaceutical Council. Although his Society had seven members on the Council, they could get nothing done, because the pharmaceutical chemists were always fourteen.

Mr. Barrie, M.P.: We will not go into the history of the dealings between the two Societies. Is there any other matter bearing upon the direct evidence?—Our great contention is that there are only 922 pharmaceutical chemists in Ireland, of whom, I think, about 400 are in business on their own account; and I think it is the duty of this Committee to face this situation—that there will not be enough qualified men to dispense prescriptions if you give Medical Benefit to Ireland.

Mr. Devlin, M.P.: Unless chemists and druggists are included?—Unless they are included, because they are doing the business in the working-class districts at the present time.

And they are permitted to do this work in England?—Anybody can fill up a prescription in England if it does not contain a scheduled poison.

Mr. Lardner, M.P.: We feel that your trade has a grievance. Don't you think we should go a long way to meet you if, in the event of recommending the extension of Medical Benefit to Ireland, we would recommend some arrangement whereby special preparations could be got from either pharmaceutical chemists, chemists and druggists, or registered druggists?—That would meet us to a certain extent.

Further examined, Mr. Gibson stated that a great deal of the business of the chemist and druggist is making up bottles for people who come in and ask for an indigestion-mixture or a blood-mixture.

Mr. Lardner: That is the very thing that the National Insurance Act is trying to strike against.

Mr. Gibson said the extension of Medical Benefit would take away that business from the chemist and druggist, and there was nothing that would take its place. The Act would put a premium on pharmaceutical chemists. For years in Ireland there has been a systematic monopoly of this business by the Pharmaceutical Society, and by all

means in their power they have tried to confine it. I went forward for my Preliminary examination and passed—

Mr. Barrie: I am sorry I cannot admit that evidence. Mr. Lardner: The difficulty you are labouring under is that the members of your body cannot get qualified as pharmaceutical chemists?—Yes. I cannot get qualified myself, because I cannot leave my business for two years. I took up my father's business when I was eighteen, and I could not leave it.

Don't you think that if you approached the Pharmaceutical Society now there would be a great possibility of arriving at a settlement?—We should not have the slightest chance.

Could you not say to them that you would withdraw your demands, provided that they facilitated the members of your Society to get the full qualification of which they are so jealous?—The House of Commons is the only place we can get that.

Supposing you agree, and there is no opposition?—We could not agree. When the last Pharmacy Bill was before the House of Commons, I had an interview with Mr. Samuel, and he was quite willing to have passed an amendment that would have covered our grievances provided we could agree with the Pharmaceutical Society. And they would not agree with us. At that time the Home Office promised that the Irish Office would bring in an amendment of the Bill, but the state of Parliamentary matters is such that there is not time. We are living in hopes that we shall get it yet.

Mr. Devlin: You think you might manage it through an amending Insurance Bill?—Yes.

Mr. Glynn: You have made a sporting offer. You say you are prepared to submit to any examination as a fair test if you were put on the panel?—We would not ask to dispense these prescriptions without giving the public a guarantee that we are able to do so.

You are prepared, according to the statement here, to undergo examination as to your qualification for dispensing?—Certainly. We have discussed it thoroughly, and we are authorised to make that statement on behalf of our Society.

Mr. Glynn: I think it is a fair offer.

This ended the proceedings.

Notes.

The Welsh Insurance Commissioners have gazetted an order removing all doubt as to whether payments can be made out of the Welsh National Health Fund to Committees before the amounts available for such Committees for the purposes of the benefits administered by them and the administration of such benefits have been ascertained. By the order, to which the Treasury consents, such payments may be made to the extent of 20% per 1,000 persons in the area of the Committee for the period January 13 to April 1, 1913.

The Insurance Commissioners have issued an agreement-form for medical practitioners paid by capitation, to date from April 13. It contains the following provisions as to drugs and appliances:

11. The practitioner shall order in the form provided by the Committee for the purpose such drugs and prescribed appliances as are requisite for the treatment of any patient other than those which the practitioner may under this agreement or any agreement hereafter to be made with the Committee himself supply: Provided that if the practitioner orders any drug not included in the list from time to time supplied to him by the Committee he shall give such order on a special form provided by the Committee for that purpose.

12. (i) The practitioner shall himself supply to a patient where requisite drugs which are necessarily or ordinarily administered by a practitioner in person, and drugs and appliances required for immediate administration or application, or required for use before a supply can conveniently be obtained otherwise under the Regulations.

(ii) The practitioner shall furnish, together with the accounts for treatment above-mentioned, accounts for the drugs and appliances so supplied by him, and payment shall be made therefor at such rate as may be agreed, or in default of agreement at the same rate as that agreed to be paid by the Committee to chemists and other persons supplying drugs and appliances.

Mr. W. S. Glyn-Jones, M.P., gave evidence on Tuesday and Wednesday before the "Drugs" Committee, which is

now sitting at the offices of the National Insurance Commission, under the chairmanship of Dr. Smith Whittaker.

Dr. Lauriston Shaw, one of the members of the Insurance Commissioners' Committee inquiring into the limitations of Section 15 (5, iii) of the Act, presided at a meeting of the National Insurance Practitioners' Association, held in Westminster on March 30, when the following, among other resolutions, was adopted:

"That medical representatives on Insurance Committees and on the Advisory Committee be urged to use their influence to limit the number of institutes and dispensaries recognised, and to prevent any being recognised without full local inquiry and medical inspection, and further to secure, wherever recognition is given, constant supervision by the Insurance Committees in order that the conditions laid down in the regulations shall be fully complied with."

Points in Dispensing Practice.

Questions and answers on difficulties of interpretation.

BLISTERS.—*J. F. W.* (24/49).—See reply to "Camul" in our issue of March 8 (index folio 361).

DOMETTE BANDAGE.—*Scot* (27/51) asks how to price a six-yard domette bandage, 8 in. [Add one-third to cost.]

BISMUTH. CARB.—*B. C.* (29/13).—The charge for bismuth. carb. 3iv. is 3s. 10d. No dispensing-fee, unless mixed with another ingredient.

PEPTONISING POWDERS.—*T. J. C.* (14/35) asks if peptonising powders may be supplied to an insured person without charge to that person. [Yes.]

PILLS.—*Rustie* (263/34).—Charge for each of the five ingredients in the forty-eight pills (this happens to be ½d. each), *plus* dispensing-fee 6d.; total, 8½d.

LACTOPEPTINE.—*Scot* (27/51).—The drachm rate for this (costing 2s. 8d. per oz.) comes out at 6½d., so charge 4d. for the 48 grains in the six powders.

EMULS. OL. MORRH.—*M. W.* (26/11).—This carries an extra fee as an emulsion, so the dispensing-fee for 3vj. is 4d. (*C. & D.*, February 15, index folio 200).

CHECKING PRESCRIPTIONS.—*H. H.* (25/10) asks if through a misunderstanding of tariff charges the wrong amounts have been carried out, who is responsible for righting them. [The Insurance Committee.]

NON-TARIFF DRUGS.—*Ashville* (16/64).—If a medical man uses the incorrect form in prescribing non-tariff drugs, the chemist who dispenses may write "Non-tariff drug" on the order. It is no part of his duty to do so, but it would help the Insurance Committee's checkers.

BORIC LINT.—*W. F.* (23/21).—As pointed out in our issue of February 1 (index folio 190), there is nothing to prevent 4 oz. of boric lint being charged at the ounce rate. These matters are for arrangement between the local Pharmaceutical Committee and the Insurance Committee.

STAPHYLOCOCCUS VACCINE.—*J. L.* (25/39).—Charge for the P., D. & Co.'s staphylococcus vaccines (which do not come within this firm's protected-price arrangement) list price, *plus* a dispensing-fee of 2d. on each bulb or ampoule. The supplying of these to a special order is quite legitimate.

SUPPOSITORIES.—*J. F. W.*—Charge for the 1-grain quinine and urea hydrochloride suppositories for materials (2d.), *plus* dispensing-fee 6d.; total, 8d. If you had supplied Parke, Davis & Co.'s, you would have been entitled to charge the protected price (1s. 9d.), *plus* a dispensing-fee of 6d., but *nota bene* P., D. & Co. only list a 3-grain suppository.

STATUTORY POISON.—*Scot* (27/51) asks: "Is a statutory poison a poison in Part 1 of the Schedule of Poisons?" [No doubt this Insurance query refers to the charge for container of poisons. The regulations of the Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain regarding the selling of poisons apply here (*C. & D.*, February 15, index folio 261; see also *C. & D. Diary*, 1913, p. 214.)]

LIN. A. B. C.—*Scot* (27/51).—You are entitled to charge for each ingredient in this liniment if you have to prepare it extemporaneously. For 3ij. this would be 5d. (using methylated liniments of aconite and belladonna, as in the tariff). If dispensed from stock the charge is 1s. for the same quantity, as the list price is 6s. per lb., but, of course, this is for liniment made with duty-paid spirit.

CHARGES FOR TINCTURES.—*P. H.* asks the price for m64 of a tincture (1.066d. or 1d.); also for m120 (1d.), as this is a quarter of an ounce, and is charged at ounce rate). A. B. (25/40) asks prices for m80 (1½d. or 1½d., as nearest halfpenny), m160 (1½d. or 1½d.), and m320 (2½d. or 2½d.). The last two are a third and two-thirds respectively of the ounce rate. *J. F. W.* (24/49).—For m640 charge 5½d. (nearest to 5½d.). See above for your other quantities.

Meeting of Chemists in Edinburgh.

A meeting of chemists from seventy places in all parts of Scotland was held at 36 York Place, Edinburgh, on March 31, Mr. J. P. Gilmour, Chairman of the Pharmaceutical Standing Committee (Scotland) presiding. The meeting was called to consider the following reply of the Insurance Commissioners to the representations made by the Committee:

National Health Insurance Commission (Scotland),
Edinburgh, March 29, 1913.

SIR,—I am to advert to recent correspondence and meetings in regard to the agreements with chemists, and to say that the Scottish Insurance Commissioners, having communicated with the Joint Committee, have directed me to inform you—

(1) That the Commissioners are prepared to favourably consider the supplement to the drug tariff submitted by you, and to recommend Insurance Committees in Scotland to give effect thereto as from April 15 next.

(2) The Commissioners, on the assumption that at the end of the first twelve months of the working of the tariff it is found that the chemists' estimates are correct—*i.e.*, that there will be an unexpended balance on the drug fund sufficient to justify an additional *pro rata* retrospective payment not exceeding 10 per cent. on the amount of the accounts of individual chemists—would be prepared to approve such payment, and any amendment of the regulations necessary to secure that the right to payment on this basis is provided for will be made.

(3) As regards your request that the Commissioners should indicate their readiness to consider a stated case in regard to an increase in dispensing-fees, a revision of tariff prices, and payment for postage or carriage of medicines for insured persons in rural areas, I am to say that while the Commissioners will, at any time, be glad to give careful consideration to any such representations made to them, they would deprecate any amendments being made until a year's experience of the working of the tariff has been obtained. It is assumed that any proposals as regards revision of tariff prices have reference only to an annual revision as at the date of the agreements, and not to a scheme of adjustment of prices to meet market fluctuations. Any suggestions on the last-mentioned lines the Commissioners consider impracticable.

(4) As regards the proposal that Regulation 30 (1), so far as it permits doctors to claim the right to supply medicines to insured persons residing in a rural area more than one mile from a chemist, should be repealed, the Commissioners will afford your Committee every assistance in submitting the special position in Scotland and explaining the difficulties which have been raised there by this provision.—I am, Sir, your obedient servant,

(Signed) HENRY L. F. FRASER,
Assistant Secretary.

The supplement to the drug tariff referred to in the letter consisted of a rectification of certain prices in the existing drug tariff which, owing to market fluctuations or original miscalculation, required to be increased. It also included a separate flat rate of 1½d. per 3 oz. or part thereof for infusions of buchu, cinchona, ergot, senega, and serpentary, and provided that infusions, tinctures, or waters not included in the drug tariff should be charged at the same general rates as those included. The supplement did not include any addition to the list of drugs. It was also provided that the supplement should take effect on April 15, and should replace anything otherwise stated in the drug tariff, which is the schedule referred to in Clause 2 of the agreement between chemists and Insurance Committees (marked form 2), and that the supplement and the drug tariff aforesaid should be construed together as constituting the schedule to the aforesaid agreement on and after the aforesaid date. The supplement also stated that the apothecaries' ounce (480 grains) is the tariff ounce.

Mr. James Leishman, Chairman of the Scottish Insurance Commissioners, attended, and addressed the meeting, discussing the whole matter very fully, and answering a large number of questions. Mr. Leishman stated that, subject to the carrying of a balance over as a reserve fund for the next year, it would be well to leave it to the Commissioners to recommend at the end of the year the exact amount to be paid to panel chemists *pro rata*.

On the motion of the Chairman a cordial vote of thanks was awarded to Mr. Leishman.

Thereafter the meeting considered what action should be taken, in view of a request from Insurance Committees to sign an extension of the agreement for the supply of drugs and appliances for insured persons for a further period of nine months, so as to complete the first medical year. Ultimately the following motion was unanimously agreed to:

This general meeting of Scottish panel chemists adheres to the protest formerly made that the existing drug tariff is not sufficiently remunerative to secure an efficient pharmacy service. In view, however, of the incompleteness of the evidence and the difficulties in the way of an adequate adjustment of terms for the remaining nine months of the first medical year, and of the concessions contained in the

letter of March 29 from the Insurance Commissioners and supplemented verbally by the Chairman of the Commissioners as minuted by this meeting, and of a proposed conference with medical practitioners to consider the whole case, this meeting resolves to recommend Scottish panel chemists to sign an extension of the agreement for nine months, subject to the aforesaid concessions being approved by Insurance Committees and without prejudice to the claim for more adequate remuneration in any future agreements.

The report of the Pharmaceutical Standing Committee (Scotland) submitted to the meeting indicated that Scottish pharmacists generally strongly object to the regulation transferring the dispensing of medicines to medical practitioners in the case of persons residing more than one mile from a chemist's shop, and the following resolution was unanimously adopted:

This meeting of Scottish panel chemists protests against the alteration of Regulation 30 (1) subsequent to its approval by the Pharmaceutical Standing Committee on Insurance, and without again conferring with them. Further, this meeting demands the repeal of that portion of the regulation added under the aforesaid circumstances which allows a medical practitioner to claim to supply medicines for all insured persons residing more than one mile from a chemist's shop at a capitation fee of 2s. This provision is contrary to the principle of free choice of chemist secured to insured persons by Regulation 34, is a hardship to sick insured persons, inconsistent with the promises of the Chancellor and the provisions of the Insurance Act as to the separation of the prescribing from the dispensing of medicines, and, particularly in Scotland, a great injustice to chemists on the panel who have contracted to supply medicines and appliances to insured persons, many of whom have been regular customers for years, and desire to remain so.

On the motion of Mr. William Giles, J.P., a cordial vote of thanks was awarded to the Chairman and to the Secretary (Mr. J. Rutherford Hill).

Dispensing Arrangements.

Reports of Meetings and other Proceedings.

Aberdeenshire.—Mr. A. S. Weir presided at a meeting of the Aberdeenshire Pharmacists' Association held in the Imperial Hotel, Aberdeen, on March 26. Besides the members of the Association, chemists of East Aberdeenshire and other districts in the division were present. Mr. J. R. Reith (Secretary) reported upon the steps that had been taken to protest against continuation of the provisional agreement for dispensing Insurance prescriptions, and the President remarked that they had gone on the panel last December at the point of the bayonet. He characterised the Commissioners' treatment of chemists as unfair and autocratic, and called attention to "Apotheker's" letter in the *C. & D.*, March 22, index folio 468, comparing the low prices of British dispensing with the German and Italian. The meeting unanimously resolved that the members should not enter into any agreement until the terms are adjusted.

Banffshire.—Ex-Provost Alexander presided at a meeting of the Banffshire Pharmaceutical Society held at Banff on March 26. The members expressed great indignation in regard to the peremptory action of the Insurance Commissioners, and unanimously resolved to formulate the alterations in the tariff, and submit them to the Insurance Committee, with a request that the alterations be given effect to before the agreements are renewed. The meeting also discussed the arrangements which enable members of the Seamen's Union to get medicines from the doctors who attend them, which the Commissioners are powerless to forbid. A vote of sympathy was passed with a member who was recently prosecuted erroneously in regard to cream of tartar.

Barrow.—At a meeting of the Barrow Insurance Committee on Wednesday, the Chairman (Councillor Ellison) spoke about a letter received from local chemists protesting against doctors prescribing proprietary medicines made by "outside firms of wholesale druggists," which he considered to be contrary to the spirit of the Act. He understood that it is seriously interfering with some of the chemists of the town. Some are stocking the articles, and others are not; consequently, the insured persons are being sent to those particular chemists, to the detriment of others. The Chairman of the Medical Benefit Sub-committee said the members were of the same opinion as the Chairman. Dr. Callaghan explained the position. Certain wholesale firms ask chemists if they kept their particular stock mixtures. They were all mixtures of proper medicines in the Pharmacopoeia, and he did not think the Committee could interfere with the doctors writing prescriptions for these articles.

Border Towns.—Mr. J. Rutherford Hill, in his capacity as Secretary to the Pharmaceutical Standing Committee (Scotland), addressed a meeting of the chemists of Kelso, Jedburgh, Galashiels, Hawick, Earlston, and Lauder at Newtown St. Boswells last week in regard to continuation of the dispensing service. Mr. John Strachan, of Jedburgh, presided, and, after a good discussion, it was resolved not to sign agreements for a second period, but to ask the County Insurance Committee for more equitable terms.

Bournemouth.—Mr. W. A. Bingham presided at a meeting of the Bournemouth Pharmaceutical Association on March 28, eighteen other members being present, when it was agreed to supply the Christchurch Board of Guardians at Insurance tariff rates, the accounts to be rendered quarterly through the Secretary of the Association. Mr. A. Worth was elected Treasurer (*pro tem.*). A protest was made against the clause in the tariff to the effect that prices should be to the nearest $\frac{1}{2}$ d. up or down.

Bradford.—At a meeting of the Bradford Chemists' Association held on April 1, Mr. M. Firth (Chairman) presiding, Mr. D. S. Priestley (Insurance Secretary) reported that matters are going on very satisfactorily. It had been arranged to meet the doctors as to the agreement which begins on April 15. Mr. H. R. Jackson had undertaken to check chemists' accounts for the Insurance Committee, whose account forms had been found to be quite unworkable in practice, and the Chemists' Committee had suggested a very simple form, which was at once accepted by the Insurance Committee. Returns of prescriptions dispensed in the first six weeks of the quarter (50,000) showed that the money available would be just sufficient to cover the bills for that heavy time of the year, so that in the spring and summer months there is likely to be more than enough money. A collection of six guineas was taken for the Pharmaceutical Standing Committee, including a guinea from Messrs. Harrison & Parkinson, though the firm are not on the panel.

Burnley.—At a meeting of the local Medical Committee recently reports were submitted regarding sub-committee work as to the supply of drugs by chemists in the district, including the arrangement whereby chemists would agree to dispense all medicines both night and day, and the doctors agree, in the case of "repeats," to give the date of the previous prescription. Chemists have also agreed to supply doctors with dressings in bulk for use in their surgeries, and to open their premises on Tuesday evenings from 7 to 8 o'clock and on Sundays from 12 to 1 p.m. and 7 to 8 p.m.

Cambridge.—A meeting of the Cambridge Pharmaceutical Association was held on March 27 at Croydon Chambers, Regent Street. The President (Mr. J. Evans) was in the chair, supported by eleven members and Mr. T. J. Mallett (Hon. Secretary). The Hon. Secretary reported as to the work of the Local Organisation Committee in connection with the working of the National Insurance Act, and the members of this Committee were unanimously elected as a Local Pharmaceutical Committee. Some discussion took place as to the request of Mr. Woolcock for more funds for the Pharmaceutical Standing Committee on Insurance, and it was unanimously agreed to send a donation. The President explained the new drug tariff, and also referred to the local drug fund, quoting figures he had obtained from the Clerk to the Insurance Committee. There are about 37,000 insured persons in the county, and the amount available would work out at about 87l. per shop on the panel. It would, he said, be an advantage if they could ascertain from time to time how they stood, in order, if possible, to prevent the discounting of the accounts. Proceeding, he stated that he had sent some of his prescriptions to Bloomsbury Square, and the pricing was not altogether satisfactory. A general conference followed, and it was decided to appoint a deputation to wait upon the Insurance Committee the following Saturday, with full power to sign a new contract. Further discussion followed with regard to the pricing of prescriptions, and it was considered that the tariff prices for infusions, tr. lobeliae aeth., tr. lavand. co., etc., should be revised. [The deputation waited upon the Insurance Committee on March 29 and brought forward the alterations and additions to the tariff. The Committee are prepared to sign the contract on the terms of the new tariff, subject to the approval of the National Insurance Commissioners.]

Cumberland.—At a meeting of the Insurance Committee last week, a letter was read from the Carlisle Chemists' Association, asking the Committee to investigate the charges made against some of the members of the Association by Mr. G. E. Edmondson in a speech on February 10. The Committee reported the receipt of a letter from a Keswick chemist, protesting against the doctors recommending certain chemists, and the matter was referred to the Sanatorium and Medical Committee, together with a letter from chemists as to hours of attendance.

Devonshire.—A conference of medical and pharmaceutical representatives, the latter being Messrs. John Taylor (Torquay), T. C. Milton, F. W. Vinden, and H. Wippell (Exeter), with the Devon Insurance Committee was held on March 27, when it was unanimously agreed that triplicate prescription-forms should be continued, with certain improvements. Medical representatives complained that the tariff list of appliances is, as regards splints and bandages, more restrictive than the regulations schedule. The new tariff was submitted and approved.

Dewsbury.—At a meeting of the local Pharmacists' Association on March 31, Mr. G. N. Gutteridge presiding, it was agreed to subscribe 2s. 6d. per panel shop to the Pharmaceutical Standing Committee on Insurance, companies included. It was decided to support the Glasgow Chemists' Association in trying to get a more satisfactory profit on proprietary articles. Mr. R. Broadhead made an interesting report of a recent meeting between the doctors, the chemists, and the West Riding Medical Benefit Committee (*q.v.*). Incidentally, he said the doctors went to get the chemists to grant the sixpence for every item of emergency dispensing. If the chemists allowed the doctors to do dispensing out of hours on those terms, it would probably run away with the greater part of the "floating sixpence," and inasmuch as the chemists were not assured that the 1s. 6d. would cover the drug-bill, they could not agree to the doctors' suggestion. He believed that if the chemists had agreed to that suggestion, the doctors would have granted several concessions which they withheld; for instance, the penny for copying prescriptions. Mr. Broadhead also dealt with "repeats," stock mixtures, and other topics which had come up, and Mr. Pickard supplemented his statement.

Dorset.—Mr. J. H. Haynes presided at a special meeting of the Dorset County Pharmacists' Association held at Dorchester on March 28, when the revised drug tariff was adopted, with a clause as to late and Sunday fees. Everyone present, and chemists were there from Blandford, Parkstone, Sherborne, Wareham, and Weymouth, as well as Dorchester, was unable to fathom why the Standing Committee had interfered with the previous arrangement respecting poison-bottles. Messrs. Haynes, Merrick, and Cussons (Hon. Secretary) were appointed to negotiate with the County Insurance Committee. The Hon. Secretary intimated that there is every prospect that that Committee will continue the triplicate prescription-book. It was agreed to contribute 2s. 6d. per panel shop for each member of the Association to the Pharmaceutical Standing Committee on Insurance. It was resolved to make endeavours to get two representatives on the County Insurance Committee instead of one.

Dover.—A meeting of the local Chemists' Association was held at the Métropole Hotel on March 27, with Mr. J. F. Brown in the chair. The alterations in the new tariff were discussed, and the most radical changes pointed out. Messrs. Ewell and Forster promised to attend the County Committee meeting on April 2. It was decided to support the Folkestone view of monthly payment on account. A levy was made towards the Standing Committee funds. Messrs. Cuff, Brown, and Forster are on the district Insurance Committee.

Dunoon.—Local chemists have decided to withdraw from the panel on April 14. The decision arrived at was on the ground that Dunoon is in a peculiar position as a seaside resort. The chemists' demand is that insured visitors should be excluded from the contract rate.

Eastbourne.—The new tariff was considered at a meeting of the Eastbourne Pharmacists' Association on March 27, Mr. Arthur Mills presiding. General satisfaction was expressed with the ounce being 480 grains and the additions made, and it was further decided to ask the Insurance Committee to grant 11d. per lb. for cod-liver oil and malt extract and 1s. 3d. per pint for cod-liver oil. On account of the very low price of 4d. for expensive tinctures, it was also decided to ask for an advance to 4½d. per oz., to add tr. valer. ammon. to the list, and to ask 1d. per oz. for the more expensive infusions.

Edinburgh.—At a meeting of the Insurance Committee on March 27 a letter was read from the Edinburgh and District Chemists' Trade Association, asking for an extension of the time for signing agreements to March 31, and submitting that there should be (1) a dispensing-fee for every prescription of medicines; (2) the dispensing-fee should be raised; (3) flat rates should be abolished; (4) containers should not be charged on the drug fund. If these were conceded, the Committee hoped to induce chemists to sign on for another period. The letter was remitted to the Medical Benefit Committee to consider and report, with authority to receive a deputation of chemists.

Elgin and Nairn.—The Medical Benefit Sub-committee of the Insurance Committee received a deputation of local

doctors and chemists at Elgin on March 29. Mr. James Spence (Elgin) and Mr. Henry Peterkin (Elgin), as the chemists' representatives, asked for better terms, and gave facts in support of their request. The whole question was left open until the result of the conference of Scottish chemists with the Insurance Commissioners is known.

Exeter.—All the chemists of the city have signed dispensing agreements as from April 14.

Greenock.—A conference between representatives of chemists, medical men, and the Insurance Committee was held on March 27, when the chemists strongly objected to signing fresh contracts unless the prices are increased. It was agreed that the matter should go to the Commissioners.

Harrow.—A general meeting of the Harrow Pharmacists' Association was held at Willesden on March 27. The President (Mr. R. L. Whigham) occupied the chair, and was supported by sixteen other members. It was decided to make a contribution towards the expenses of the Pharmaceutical Standing Committee on Insurance.

Hartlepool.—In addition to the business transacted at the annual meeting of the Hartlepool Pharmacists' Association (reported on another page), the question of the renewing of the contracts with the Insurance Committee was discussed. It was unanimously agreed to sign, subject to the revised tariff issued by the Pharmaceutical Standing Committee as from April 14, and to such alterations as may from time to time be agreed upon between the Association, the local Medical Committee, and the Insurance Committee, with approval of Insurance Commissioners. The Secretary gave an account of the alterations in the tariff, but owing to the late hour the discussion was adjourned. The question of subscribing to the Pharmaceutical Standing Committee was also held over.

Huddersfield.—Mr. W. J. B. Wood presided at a meeting of the local Chemists' Association on March 27. It was agreed to sign the renewing agreement for dispensing.

Hull.—The Insurance Committee has decided to ask the assistance of local chemists, particularly Mr. Richardson, in appointing a pharmacist-clerk.

Isle of Wight.—At the meeting of the Isle of Wight Pharmacists' Association in the Guildhall, Newport, on March 26, with the President (Mr. H. H. Pollard) in the chair, the revised Insurance drug tariff was approved and adopted as basis of new agreement, which it was resolved members should sign and send in, endorsed "Subject to adoption of revised tariff." It was unanimously decided to recommend the Insurance Committee to pay 90 per cent. of the total amount of the drug-bills for the quarter. The Secretary has since been informed that they have decided to do this so far as the drug fund, *per se*, permits, the payment of any portion of the "floating sixpence" required being subject to further consideration. It was further decided to request a 2s. 6d. subscription per pharmacy from members for the Pharmaceutical Standing Committee on Insurance.

Lincolnshire.—On behalf of the hundred chemists on the panel in the county, a meeting of the Insurance Committee has been requested in order to discuss the drug tariff, with the view of obtaining more satisfactory terms.

Leeds.—The Insurance Committee having invited competitive tenders for the checking of the chemists' accounts for the first quarter, the tender has been accepted of Mr. A. R. Mundell, the President of the Leeds Chemists' Association, who will have 150,000 to deal with.—Mr. Mundell presided at a meeting of the local Association on April 2, when Mr. W. L. Currie (Glasgow) was a visitor. A report was submitted in regard to the compilation of a local formulary, after which the new tariff was discussed and favourably commented upon. A statement was made as to the course of events at the Parliamentary inquiry in regard to the position of the drug-stores under the Insurance Act, and a very hearty vote of thanks was awarded to Messrs. Sargeant, Mundell, Beacock, and Shaw for their services in regard to the matter. The President stated that he should be starting checking accounts on Monday next as the officially appointed checker for Leeds, and the prescriptions for the first quarter should now be sent in at once. Afterwards the prescriptions are to be sent in weekly. All "repeats" must be pinned to the originals. It was agreed to give 2s. 6d. per shop to the Pharmaceutical Standing Committee on Insurance.

Lincoln Lindsey.—A representative number of Lincolnshire chemists met at Dring's Hotel, Grimsby, on March 27, Mr. J. A. Hawdon (President of the Grimsby Pharmacists' Association) in the chair. The Chairman explained the object of the meeting. It has long been acknowledged, he said, that chemists situated in a scattered district, such as that covered by the Lindsey Division of Lincolnshire, should have some means whereby they could be linked together by a representative Committee. He was pleased that the

Grimsby Association had been able to lend a helping hand in effecting such an organisation. Mr. H. W. Colley then addressed the meeting, and was followed by Mr. C. H. Ashton, after which Mr. F. W. Dennis, a member of the Lindsey Insurance Committee, described the work that the Committee has accomplished, and paid a tribute to Mr. Lee, of Gainsborough, who has helped him in the work. He viewed with alarm the proposed fee for copying, which he thought no Insurance Committee would allow. It at once spoils any chance the doctors might have of gaining the floating sixpence, which is one of the biggest safeguards against extravagant prescribing. He stated that the rural area question has been amicably arranged with the doctors in Louth, and suggested the constitution of the Pharmaceutical Committee in connection with the Lincoln (Lindsey) Pharmacists' Association, which it was decided to form. Mr. Ashton offered to act as Secretary *pro tem.*, and to arrange a meeting shortly at Lincoln, when the officers will be appointed.

Liverpool.—The new tariff is not being received with open arms in the Liverpool area. The majority of Liverpool chemists are under contract with the Lancashire Insurance Committee, whose tariff is decidedly more remunerative than the Liverpool one. Some chemists feel that the new tariff should be quite as remunerative as the Lancashire county one. For instance, in the flat rate of 4*d.* per oz. for tinctures, the Lancashire tariff allows 7*d.* per oz. for tr. cannab. ind. and tr. chlorof. et morph., as well as 5*d.* per oz. for tr. gelsem. and tr. iodi. There are other instances where more expensive drugs are priced higher than the "Square" list. Birkenhead chemists have followed Chester's lead. They received intimation from their Secretary not to send in their agreement forms until they had held a meeting. The Secretary of the Insurance Committee of the Liverpool Chemists' Association (Mr. G. V. C. Last) has sent a communication to each chemist, on behalf of the Pharmaceutical Standing Committee, asking for 2*s.* 6*d.* for each panel shop. Enclosed with the communication was a letter from the local Insurance Committee informing chemists that local doctors had been advised not to prescribe proprietary medicines. One doctor, who has 3,000 insured persons on his list, when interviewed, informed our representative that he thought the present tariff very liberal indeed in the allowance of such a large range of galenicals to select from. He had at times required other things, such as hypodermic tablets, serums, etc., but he had given them gratis, as he did not often require them, and he was quite prepared to do this, so as to keep the drug bill down, to try and obtain the "floating sixpence." There was a little friction at first when chemists refused to dispense "proprietary," but everything is going along smoothly, now that the doctors realise the position.

Llanelly.—At a meeting of the Llanelly and East Carmarthenshire Pharmacists' Association on March 25, Mr. Evan Jones (Llanelly) in the chair, it was agreed to sign fresh dispensing agreements with the new tariff as a basis, double dispensing-fees being allowed by agreement for after-hours "Urgent" prescriptions. A minimum subscription of 2*s.* 6*d.* per panel shop is to be given to the Pharmaceutical Standing Committee on Insurance. It was resolved to protest against the rural area regulation. A penny extra for "Repeats" was suggested, and continuance of duplicate prescriptions was preferred to the penny copying-fee.

Manchester.—Mr. F. W. Bates presided over an attendance of about sixty-five members of the Manchester Pharmaceutical Association at the meeting called by the Insurance Committee at the Onward Buildings, Deansgate, on March 26. The renewal agreement form and various other matters relating to future negotiations regarding the tariff were freely discussed. One expected from the previous grumbings with regard to the remuneration a great deal more adverse criticism, but those present were either shy or satisfied with the explanations of the Hon. Secretary (Mr. G. A. Mallinson). Very little was said except with regard to the constant prescribing of the concentrated proprietary mixtures by many medical men. It was unanimously decided to take steps to stop the practice. It was resolved that the prices in the revised tariff of tinct. chlorof. et morph. co. B.P. 1893 and tinct. lobelia ether be raised to 6*d.* per oz. The prices allowed for infusion of buchu and infusion of senega were mentioned as being unremunerative, but were allowed to stand at the present flat rate, as the proportion taken on the whole would pay. Several aqua's were mentioned, but that again was decided as best left alone, as at the flat rate a profit was being made, and wholesale alterations were not considered advisable. The revised tariff was read out at the meeting, and met with general approval. The Chairman mentioned that it has been decided to levy a sum of

2*s.* 6*d.* per shop of every chemist on the panel to go towards the expenses of the Pharmaceutical Standing Committee.

Middlesex.—A meeting of doctors and chemists was held at the offices of the Middlesex Insurance Committee on March 31, at 3 p.m., Mr. W. S. Glyn-Jones, M.P., presiding. The statutory Medical Committee was represented by Drs. Barnes, Bunter, Hart, Shanks, and Soden; while the Middlesex Association of Pharmacists was represented by Messrs. Bailey, Humphrey, Skinner, Whigham, and Wolff. The decisions arrived at were as follows:

1. In order to relieve the Drug Fund from the proposed charge of 1*d.* for each prescription copied when no copy is given by the doctor, it was deemed necessary that the prescription should reach the chemist in duplicate. A form of prescription-book, therefore, was selected which provides that a duplicate could be written, and it was left to the choice of the doctor to keep a third copy for his own use.

2. The new tariff was agreed to and forms the basis of the new agreements now being signed by Middlesex chemists.

3. It was felt that some standard of quality must be set up with regard to surgical appliances, and it was left to the chemists to devise some test for bandages, gauzes, etc.

4. The practice of writing "Rept. mist." should be discouraged as much as possible, and where a doctor continues it and fails to give the data necessary for the easy identification of the original prescription, the chemist is quite within his rights in refusing to dispense the medicine.

5. As there appears to be a desire on the part of medical men to adopt certain standard formulae, it was felt that the compilation of a Pharmacopoeia for use in the county is very desirable, and an early conference of chemists and doctors was decided upon to attain this object.

6. In order to prevent prescriptions being brought at unnecessarily late hours, an extra fee of 6*d.* was granted to chemists for all prescriptions which are marked "Urgent" by the doctor and dispensed between 11 p.m. and 8 a.m., it being understood that all prescriptions not so marked need not be dispensed during those hours.

7. The habit of prescribing expensive proprietary articles was strongly deprecated, for it was felt that when good formulae for similar preparations can be found in such books as the B.P. Codex, the prescribing of these articles seriously depletes the Drug Fund without any corresponding advantage to any of the parties concerned.

Other matters were discussed and left to be finally decided at another conference to be held at an early date. The Secretary of the Middlesex Pharmacists' Association was recommended to instruct all chemists on the panel to sign and return without delay the agreement forms recently received from the Middlesex Insurance Committee. The Insurance Committee have agreed to the new tariff proposal as to poison-bottles, but it must be ratified by the Insurance Commissioners. On March 29 the Committee issued the new agreement forms. These are different from those of the London Committee, as accounts are to be grouped together according to their amounts—so many at ½*d.*, so many at 1*d.*, with a separate line for each amount up to 1*s.*, then blank lines for various amounts over. The system has caused some dissatisfaction among those chemists who have numbered their prescriptions consecutively as they have been received, and have arranged them in bundles of 100. It should, however, ultimately save chemists and the Committee time and labour.

North Kent.—Mr. R. Feaver Clarke, J.P., presided at a meeting of the North Kent Pharmacists' Association held at Gravesend on April 26, when Mr. Edmund White, B.Sc., Vice-President of the Pharmaceutical Society, gave an instructive address on Insurance dispensing. The Hon. Secretary (Mr. J. E. French) reported that the Insurance dispensing is working smoothly in the county, and with the adoption of the revised tariff he felt there would be very little cause left for complaint.

North London.—A special meeting of the North London Pharmacists' Association held on March 31 was attended by 150 members, and though much criticism was levelled at the tariff and points of detail working, it was agreed to accept what arrangements the county associations make and sign the new agreements.

Oldham.—Mr. E. H. Holden presided at a meeting of the Oldham Pharmaceutical Association on March 25. It was agreed to give 2*s.* 6*d.* per shop to the Pharmaceutical Standing Committee on Insurance, as well as a donation from the funds. A number of alterations and additions to the tariff were agreed to. A simple method of duplicating prescriptions, involving a minimum of trouble to the doctor, was exhibited, and it was resolved to bring it and the question of dispensing hours to the notice of the local Insurance Committees. It was also agreed that medical men be requested to initial excessive doses. Members were instructed not to send in agreement forms until advised by the Secretary. Mr. Horace S. Dearnley (Uppermill) was elected an associate. Messrs. W. Buckley, H. Thompson, G. Tedd, and T. Shackleton were nominated to fill vacancies.

Perthshire.—At a meeting held in Perth on March 31 it was agreed to defer signing agreements until more remunerative terms are granted.

Shropshire.—At a meeting of the county Pharmacists' Association on March 27, Mr. W. G. Cross presiding, it was decided to ask every member of the Association to contribute 2s. 6d. to the Pharmaceutical Standing Committee. It was arranged to postpone the dinner until the autumn. Mr. Henshaw stated that certain doctors are sending Insurance patients to stated chemists, and the Hon. Secretary (Mr. W. G. Cross, jun.) was instructed to write to the Insurance Committee on the subject. The Vice-President (Mr. Dunn) asked all the members to do their best to secure the return of Mr. Cross to the Pharmaceutical Council next May.

Southport.—Mr. James Righton presided at a meeting of the Southport Pharmacists' Association held on March 26, fourteen other members being present. In regard to the application for a late Insurance dispensing-fee, the Clerk to the Insurance Committee wrote stating that the panel doctors, as a matter of principle, are unable to agree to it. Mr. Moorhouse reported that the collection and delivery of Insurance prescriptions at Crossens (a village where two doctors had applied to do their own dispensing) is working satisfactorily. On behalf of the Pharmaceutical Standing Committee on Insurance 3l. was collected, and chemists on the panel will be asked to augment this. Members expressed agreement with the revised tariff. Messrs. Righton, Joye, Hare, and Cave were appointed to interview the Clerk to the Insurance Committee in regard to renewed agreements, and to draw attention to the numerous "Rept. mist." prescriptions. The interview took place on March 27, and the Clerk promised to consult the panel doctors and report to Mr. J. R. Cave (Hon. Secretary).

Stirling.—At a meeting of Burgh Insurance Committee the chemists' requisition for an increase in their tariff was discussed. It was considered that the claims were quite reasonable, but the matter has to wait the decision of the Commissioners. There was a long discussion regarding the application by Dr. Chalmers (St. Ninians) to supply drugs, as there is no chemist's shop in the vicinity. This had been granted at the last meeting, but it was now objected that this was out of order, and steps were taken to rescind it; but the Clerk explained that they could not interfere with the decision as approved by the Commissioners regarding Dr. Chalmers' application.

Stirlingshire.—Mr. R. Gordon Drummond presided at a meeting of the Stirling, Clackmannan, and Kinross Pharmaceutical Association held at Stirling on March 27, when it was unanimously agreed to refuse to sign the new agreement until the tariff of charges has been revised satisfactorily to them. It was decided to take steps to secure the formation of a National Federation of Local Pharmaceutical Associations.

Wolverhampton.—At a recent meeting of the local Medical Committee Dr. H. C. Mactier (Hon. Secretary) reported that the Commissioners were in favour of the adoption of a local Pharmacopœia, and it was resolved to recommend the panel doctors to adopt a pharmacopœia, preferably that of the Birmingham local Medical Committee.

Worcestershire.—On the motion of the Chairman (Mr. J. W. Willis Bund), the Insurance Committee declined to adopt the new drug tariff if the 1d. fee for copying prescriptions is left in.

PATENT MEDICINES.

THE Select Committee appointed by the House of Commons to inquire into the sale of patent and proprietary medicines and medical preparations and appliances and advertisements relating thereto met again on April 3. Sir Henry Norman was in the chair, and the other members of the Committee present were Sir Philip Magnus, Mr. Lynch, Dr. Chapple, Mr. Lawson, Mr. O'Grady, and Mr. Glyn-Jones. It was ten minutes past twelve before the public was admitted, and the whole of the morning sitting was taken up by the evidence of Mr. Edric Vredenburg (Raphael Tuck & Sons, Ltd.) and Mr. J. A. South (Steedman & Co.) regarding the circumstances of the publication of a booklet under the title of "Hints to Mothers," referred to by Mr. South in his evidence given on February 6 (*C. & D.*, February 8, index folio 233). The booklet bears the words, "By M.D. London," and, as stated on the previous occasion, the

Committee regarded it as a serious matter that a man with a high medical degree should issue a recommendation of a proprietary matter. Mr. South promised to communicate with the medical author. The story as told to the Committee this week is that the booklet was produced in the ordinary course of business as an advertisement by Raphael Tuck & Sons, Ltd., Mr. Vredenburg being the editor of that company's publications. He told the Committee that he first compiled the booklet from medical works and then submitted the manuscript to his medical man, Dr. Owen Pritchard. This doctor, having read it, wrote:

I have returned manuscript this morning by registered post. I have to congratulate you upon having written a very up-to-date little book. I really find nothing to object to in it from beginning to end, and, indeed, nothing of importance to add to it. I have ventured to pencil one or two suggestions, but they are only suggestions, and if not necessary can be rubbed off. I presume it is not necessary for my name and address to be put on the book, as some of my professional brethren might object, and consider it a form of advertisement. I, however, thoroughly approve of the book.

The references to Steedman's powders, witness said, were inserted afterwards, doubtless on instructions received by Raphael Tuck & Co.'s advertisement department. Mr. Vredenburg admitted that it was not correct to say that the book was written by an "M.D. London." As it is seventeen years since the transaction took place, witness could not be positive on every point. Mr. South, who was on oath, explained how he came to believe that the book was written by an "M.D. London." He produced the correspondence with Messrs. Tuck, in which it was stated that they had secured the services of a London M.D. to write the book. Mr. South also produced the letter from Dr. Owen Pritchard (referred to above) which, having regard to the date, he (witness) interpreted to mean that he had seen the finished matter. The cross-examination took a long time, members of the Committee asking for further proof of Mr. South's conjecture, and the latter stating that his recollection of interviews with Messrs. Tuck's traveller, coupled with the letters placed before the Committee, are the only evidence he can offer. As a finish up, the Chairman said the Committee has had the powders analysed at the Government laboratory. "Would you have any objection to my reading the report?" said the Chairman. "Yes," replied Mr. South.

AFTER LUNCHEON.

When the Committee reassembled evidence was given by Mr. John Lawson, Ph.C., manager of Daisy, Ltd., Leeds, proprietors of the "Daisy" cure for headache and neuralgia. He offered evidence on the use of acetanilide and phenacetin in headache and neuralgia powders, and in particular on "Daisy" Powders.

In "Secret Remedies" nine headache and neuralgia powders are reported on. Of these six have, he believed, little sale in this country. Among the remaining three, "Daisy" is perhaps the best known. "Daisy" has been on the market twenty years. It is exempt from medicine stamp duty under the exemption in favour of pure drugs. Pure drugs are easily identified by physical and chemical tests. Therefore, a medicine consisting of a pure drug is not a secret remedy.

In addition to the "Daisy" headache cure, Daisy, Ltd., prepare a "Head Powder." The reason for the introduction of the "Head Powder" are as follows: When "Daisy" was first introduced it was generally believed in the trade that, because it was exempt from medicine stamp duty, therefore it was also exempt from medicine licence duty. As a result of this general belief there were large numbers of unlicensed shopkeepers selling the "Daisy" headache cure. These shopkeepers usually obtained their supplies from the local chemist. By buying a packet containing twenty "Daisies" at the chemist's for 1s., and selling the powders at 1d. each, the shopkeeper made a good profit. At that time the Medicine Stamp Act was not very strictly administered by the Board of Inland Revenue; but about 1903-4 the Department began to show greater activity. A number of shop-

Keepers were threatened with proceedings for selling "Daisy" without a licence; penalties were claimed, and in a few instances cases were taken into the courts and fines imposed. The company communicated with the Board of Inland Revenue, and a lengthy correspondence followed. In addition, witness had interviews with officials at Somerset House. The company then prepared and sent to the Board for their approval the "Head Powder" wrapper, and intimated that they are putting it on the market to meet this competition, their intention being that the dose in each "Head Powder" should be five grains of acetanilide exactly as in the original "Daisy" cure. The company stated that it was very unsatisfactory to them to have to issue this new wrapper, "Head Powder," but that so long as other firms are permitted to issue "Head Powders" they must claim the same privilege.

At first the Board refused to sanction the use of the company's "Head Powder" wrapper, but ultimately they admitted the claim to be allowed to put the two powders on the market in the wrappers as at present used, but they stipulated that the composition of the "Head Powder" should be *essentially different* from the composition of the "Daisy" headache cure. The company, therefore, adopted phenacetin for the "Head Powder." Phenacetin is closely allied to acetanilide, both in chemical constitution, physical characteristics, and therapeutic effects.

In regard to the use of acetanilide for headache and neuralgia, witness furnished for the information of the Committee extracts from well-known medical works on the treatment of headache and neuralgia for the purpose of showing how widely phenacetin, antipyrin, or acetanilide, either alone or with caffeine, are recommended by the profession.

Mr. Lawson recalled Dr. Dixon's statement that "acetanilide was a dangerous drug" and that "lots of deaths had been caused by headache-powders containing acetanilide," and stated from his own knowledge that during the past seven and a half years—since he joined Daisy, Ltd.—many millions of doses of acetanilide had been consumed within the United Kingdom, and, he believed, with none but beneficial results, and without causing injury to health. Dr. Dixon's vague statement is not supported by the Registrar-General's returns of deaths for the last ten years. There is only one death recorded as caused by headache powders; that was in 1908. In that case also the evidence showed that a powder containing phenacetin, not acetanilide, had been taken. Witness then dealt with the frequency of the use of acetanilide in medicine, and then referred to the dose of acetanilide. This in a "Daisy" Powder is five grains; in the B.P. dose it is given as three grains. In the previous edition it was 12 grains. In the United States Pharmacopœia the average dose is 0.25 gramme (approximately 4 grains). In the German and most other Continental Pharmacopœias the dose is 0.5 gramme (approximately 8 grains). Many of the medical text-books recommend doses in excess of the British Pharmacopœia, and eminent firms, such as Burroughs, Wellcome & Co., Parke, Davis & Co., Wright, Layman and Umney, Ltd., and Wm. Martindale, prepared and advertised acetanilide tablets of 5 grains in each dose.

The statement in "Secret Remedies" that the weight of a "Daisy" Powder is 6 grains would show that the analyst must have examined a very old packet. The dose has been 5 grains for at least nine years. In regard to the declaration of the presence of the drug in proprietary medicines, he did not regard this as desirable. It is in the public interest that drugs and medicines should be sold only in suitable doses properly dispensed, and with directions for use attached.

The Chairman: Your evidence is, in point of fact, in defence, by quotation from medical works, of the free use of acetanilide?—Yes.

Why do you think that necessary?—Because of the very strong attack which has been made by Professor Dixon and Professor Cushney.

And attacks upon its sale in America as well?—I think Professor Cushney said something about that.

I have seen statements alleging that there have been a

good many deaths in America from the use of acetanilide?—I know nothing about America.

You seem to suggest from your evidence that because medical text-books say that acetanilide may be prescribed usefully by medical men, it may be taken usefully if it is sold broadcast under some name not its own without reference to the particular illness of the person who buys it?—What I want to point out is that acetanilide loses none of its virtue because it is used in a proprietary article. I do not deprecate the value of medical examination.

But you maintain that it is useful where there has been no medical diagnosis?—The people can make the diagnosis themselves. Headache is about the easiest thing to diagnose possible.

But not the cause of it?—No; but I have known a man to be able to diagnose the cause of his headache. (Laughter.)

Mr. Glyn-Jones: Do you regard headache as a symptom or a disease?—One medical authority says that it is such a common symptom that it is frequently spoken of as a disease. In nine cases out of ten it is not the symptom of any disease. The cause is well known. It may be riding in the train, or it may be sitting in the sun. (Laughter.)

The Chairman: It would follow from your argument that any drug recommended in a medical text-book as suitable to be prescribed by a doctor after diagnosis may be properly sold broadcast to the public under a fancy name for their self-medication?—I see no objection.

The Chairman then went on to quote Professor Cushney's statement with regard to the prohibition of the sale of headache-powders containing acetanilide in the United States. In reply Mr. Lawson made an interesting statement on the subject as told to him by the president of the Antikamnia Co. He was informed that when the law was brought in in America it was decided that the acetanilide should be named on the label; the Antikamnia Co., to avoid that, stopped using acetanilide and substituted phenacetin. Later the American Board of Agriculture decided that phenacetin should likewise be disclosed, but before that happened the company worked off their superfluous stock (containing acetanilide) on the European market. Now Antikamnia contains phenacetin, but nine-tenth of the Antikamnia trade in this country has been built up on prescribing by medical men of the acetanilide preparation.

In reply to Mr. Lawson, witness said Antikamnia had been for years, and still is, advertised in the medical papers. Moreover, the company have representatives calling on doctors and getting them to prescribe Antikamnia.

The Chairman was very interested in that statement, which was evidently new to him, and he wanted to know what kind of arguments such representatives use to induce medical men to prescribe acetanilide as Antikamnia. Witness had no idea of what form the arguments took, but he repeated that it was common knowledge in the trade. It was done by many manufacturing and wholesale houses, but he (witness) was sorry he could not refer any representative to the Chairman who could throw light on the methods adopted.

Mr. Glyn-Jones questioned witness as to the attempts that had been made to schedule acetanilide as a poison. He tried to get Mr. Lawson to admit that acetanilide was looked upon by the medical profession generally as dangerous in use. Mr. Lawson stuck doggedly to his point that acetanilide as prepared and sold in definite doses by his company is a safe and useful remedy for neuralgia and headache. Acetanilide is generally recommended in text-books as treatment without any warning. He eventually admitted that there is a certain prejudice against acetanilide among medical men largely because it had been sold in the form of "Daisy" Powders and other headache powders to the general public. He denied that acetanilide is a dangerous remedy; its dangers have been grossly exaggerated.

Mr. Glyn-Jones then took witness on the difference between "Daisy" Powders and the "Head Powders" sold by Daisy, Ltd.

Mr. Lawson explained that the Inland Revenue authorities allowed them to use a similar looking package for "Head Powders" provided the contents were "essentially different." Therefore the "Head Powders" were made with phenacetin, and he considered there was no risk with either 5 grains of acetanilide or 8 grains of phenacetin. That

position was forced upon them against their will, and he would like to see the whole of the Medical Stamp Acts abolished. He saw nothing wrong in that action, and he certainly made no apology for claiming the full exemption allowed by the law.

The Chairman agreed entirely, and Mr. O'Grady next asked a few questions about alleged deaths from headache-powders. He (witness) considered Dr. Dixon's evidence before the Committee most extraordinary, although he knew there were rumours and newspaper reports of supposed cases of poisoning from acetanilide, but he had given the facts as contained in the Registrar-General's report. In this connection he would recommend that when any question arose as to death from any proprietary the proprietor of the remedy should be represented at the inquest. The statements against acetanilide so far as he knew had no effect on the sale of "Daisy" Powders, but, of course, he said (amid laughter) he could scarcely tell what the sales might have been if no such statements had been made.

In reply to Sir Philip Magnus he said that he (Sir Philip) could not put acetanilide on the market and call it "Buttercup," as that happened to be one of his company's own trade-marks. When the laughter subsided he explained to Sir Philip (who was anxious to know where "the industry came in he was so anxious to protect") that Daisy, Ltd., took credit to themselves for selling for a penny a medicine which did good and would cost three or four times the price if bought as acetanilide.

Mr. Lawson brought out that Antikamnia is being advertised and used by medical men, simultaneously with the medical condemnation of acetanilide. He (witness) was of opinion that the working of the Insurance Act might have a deleterious effect on the sale of "Daisy" Powders.

Dr. Chapple began his cross-examination by quoting from an investigation of deaths from acetanilide published in 1909 by the Bureau of Chemistry in America. Witness said he knew nothing of America, and he thought it distinctly unfair to take him there.

"But don't you think," said Dr. Chapple, "if all these deaths occurred in America they point to the possibility of the same thing happening in this country?"

"Put it the other way round," quickly replied Mr. Lawson. "From my own knowledge several million doses of acetanilide have been distributed in this country with no bad results. Could not the same thing be possible in America?"

Dr. Chapple then went on to take a suppositious case of a child being given a "Daisy" Powder, when he was quickly pulled up by witness, who said, "'Daisy' was not an infants' teething powder." It was not suitable for children, and that fact was distinctly stated on each package. Dr. Chapple quoted a number of serious diseases in which headache is the first symptom, and asked what good "Daisy" could do in such cases. Mr. Lawson said "Daisy" would do no harm in either case, but there might be danger in delay.

Mr. Lynch was anxious to reconcile the discrepancy between the statements of Dr. Dixon and Mr. Lawson as to deaths from acetanilide, but the witness could give him no satisfaction. He held to the Registrar-General's returns and assumed them to be accurate. Replying to further questions, Mr. Lawson said he was not a medical man, but as a chemist had a general knowledge of therapeutics. He did not prescribe "Daisy" Powders for the public; the public prescribed "Daisy" for themselves and he supplied. Answering a further question from Mr. Lynch, he quoted very effectively from a standard medical work the opinion that acetanilide was not dangerous. Another quotation also from a medical book disposed of Dr. Chapple's suggestion that it was habit-forming.

On the whole, Mr. Lawson may be said to have scored all round. The Chairman thanked him, and the Committee adjourned until next Thursday.

"THE CHEMIST-OPTICIAN" is the first book which chemists should read who want to know how to make money off spectacles and eyeglasses. Published at 4s. (by post 4s. 3d.), can be obtained from the C. & D. Offices in London or Melbourne, and from the wholesale and sundries houses at the published price.

TRADE REPORT.

The prices given in this section are those obtained by importers or manufacturers for bulk quantities or original packages. To these prices various charges have to be added, whereby values are in many instances greatly augmented before wholesale dealers receive the goods into stock, after which much expense may be incurred in garbling and the like. Qualities of chemicals, drugs, oils, and many other commodities vary greatly, and higher prices than those here quoted are charged for selected qualities of natural products even in bulk quantities. Retail buyers cannot, therefore, for these and other reasons, expect to purchase at the prices quoted here.

42 Cannon Street, London, E.C., April 3.

BUSINESS continues of a restricted character in chemicals and drugs, and complaints of inactivity are fairly widespread. The fact that a drug-auction was held this week has, however, helped to extend operations somewhat. A fair number of price changes have occurred, the bulk of them being on the easier or lower side. Cod-liver oil is the turn cheaper in the absence of support from buyers. English castor oil, bergamot and orange oils, Japanese refined camphor, copper sulphate, soy and lycopodium are all easier. Calabar beans, eserine, apomorphine, and turpentine are lower. Balsam Canada, cocoa-butter, Cochin coconut oil, Reunion geranium oil, glucose, starch powder, oxalic acid, and valerian-root are all higher. Russian cantharides and shellac are firmer. Russian anise is firm, while belladonna root and leaves are unchanged. The principal alterations, including those recorded at the drug-auctions, are as follows:

Higher	Firmer	Easier	Lower
Balsam (Canada)	Aloes (Cape)	Bergamot oil	Apomorphine hyd.
Cocoa butter	Cantharides (Ru.s.)	Camphor (Jap. ref.)	Calabar beans
Coconut oil	Oxalic acid	Castor oil (Eng.)	Cardamoms
Geranium oil (Reunion)	Shellac	Coca-leaves	Cassia oil
Glucose	Squill	Cod-liver oil	Chillies
Gumiacum		Copper sulphate	Eserine and salts
Mace		Ipecacuanha	Ginger (Cochin)
Palm kernel oil		Lycopodium	Lead nitrate
Sarsaparilla (Grey Jam)		Orange-oil	Linseed
Starch powder		Soy	Lit. see oil
Valerian-root			Turpentine

Cablegrams.

BERGEN, April 2.—The last few days' cod-fishing at West Lofoten proved good. Market for finest non-congealing Norwegian oil is quiet at 124s. per barrel c.i.f. terms.

NEW YORK, April 2.—Business is moderate. Opium has advanced 40c. per lb. to \$6.20 for druggists' in original cases. Peppermint oil in tins is quiet at \$2.80. Copaiba balsam is irregular at 45c. per lb. for South American. Canada balsam is firm at \$14 per Amer. gallon. Oregon balsam is easier by 10c. at \$1.65. Curaçao aloes in cases is steady at 8½c. Both cascara sagrada and hydrastis are unaltered.

London Markets.

ANISEED is unchanged at 25s. per cwt. for fair Russian on the spot.

APOMORPHINE shows a reduction of 4s. 3d. per oz., makers' current quotations being 31s. 6d. per oz. net.

ARECA.—Small lots of only merchantable quality are offered on spot at 19s.

BALSAM, CANADA, is 1s. per lb. dearer on spot, nothing being available under 6s. 6d.; in Canada the equivalent of 8s. is quoted.

BELLADONNA ROOT is unchanged, true high-testing offering at 36s. per cwt. c.i.f., and on the spot 36s. will also buy.

BERGAMOT OIL has an easier tendency, with offers at from 24s. to 26s. per lb. c.i.f. A Palermo advice under date of March 29 reports a neglected market, and with a firm order sellers might be inclined to concede.

CALABAR BEANS are lower owing to moderate arrivals at Hamburg, from whence good merchantable quality are offered at 5½d. per lb. c.i.f.

CAMPHOR (REFINED).—Further business has been done in Japanese 2½-lb. slabs at 1s. 4½d. to 1s. 5d. and 1-oz. tablets at 1s. 5½d. to 1s. 6d. per lb. c.i.f., principally April-May shipment; on spot 1-oz. tablets sell at 1s. 7d.

CANARY-SEED.—There is little demand, and prices are nominal in the absence of business. Ordinary quality is quoted 95s. to 97s. 6d. and good 100s. per quarter.

CANTHARIDES.—Russian flies are in small supply, 3s. 7½d. per lb. c.i.f. being asked for shipment from the Continent.

CARAWAY-SEED continues dull of sale at 25s. to 26s. per cwt. for fair to good Dutch on the spot.

CASTOR OIL.—English make is 5s. per ton easier, first-pressing for prompt delivery offering at 29l., May-June 28l. 5s., and July-December at 26l. 5s. per ton, barrels included, usual terms, delivered free on wharf London; pure cold-drawn pharmaceutical quality is 50s. per ton over the price of firsts, and oil in tins and cases 50s. over the respective price in barrels. Belgian firsts for prompt delivery is 29l. and May-December 28l. in barrels, ex wharf London.

CINCHONA.—The shipments from Java during March amounted to 962,000 Amst. lb., against 812,000 Amst. lb. in 1912 and 1,493,000 Amst. lb. in 1911. The shipments during the first three months of the year were: 3,834,400 Amst. lb., against 2,372,000 Amst. lb. in 1912 and 3,860,000 Amst. lb. in 1911.

At the Amsterdam bark-sale to-day (Thursday) the average unit was 4.30c., against 4.31c. at the last auction.

CITRIC ACID.—Retail sales from second-hands have been made at from 1s. 8½d. to 1s. 9d.

COCOA BUTTER.—At the Amsterdam auction 27 tons Van Houten's A quality sold at 84.85c., against 81.03c.; 110 tons B sold at 76.36c. and 60 tons Blokker at 74.62c. per half-kilo. In the London auction 40 cases Brazilian sold in bond at from 1s. 3d. to 1s. 3½d. per lb.

COCONUT OIL.—Cochin has advanced to 50s. per cwt. on spot, with an extremely small supply. Ceylon is 44s. 6d.

COD-LIVER OIL.—The absence of demand has brought about a general decline in quotations, although the fishing shows continually poor results. Offers soliciting business in good brands of new medicinal oil at 125s. c.i.f. have been received by the trade, and several quote 130s. to 135s.; 1912 oil offers at from 105s. to 115s. per barrel. In the drug-auction 10 barrels Keilland's brand 1912 oil were held at 115s. per barrel.

Our Bergen correspondent writes on March 31 that although the weather is now calmer, the cod-fishing is giving poor results only. In Lofoten many fishermen have already left, especially in the eastern districts, and are now on their way to Finnmarken, where the spring-fishing will soon be starting. To-day's report gives the following details:

<i>Lofoten.</i>				
	1911	1912	1913	
Catch of cod (millions) ...	8.9	13.9	5.9	
Yield of cod-liver oil (hect.) ...	6,850	10,800	3,550	
Livers for "raw" oils (hect.) ...	650	100	610	
<i>The Whole Country.</i>				
	1911	1912	1913	
Catch of cod (millions) ...	28.2	54.3	21.7	
Yield of cod-liver oil (hect.) ...	20,003	42,300	15,100	
Livers for "raw" oils (hect.) ...	4,500	7,000	4,000	

At the beginning of the Lofoten fishing in February 450 livers were required to fill one hectolitre, whereas now 600 to 800 livers are needed. The percentage of oil contained in the livers is pretty well maintained at from 33 to 42 per cent., against 38 to 43 per cent. in February. The prices paid for the fresh liver in the fishing-places are two to three times higher than at the opening of the fishing. The market shows an easier tendency. There has been a drop of 5s. per barrel in crude oil, and new non-congealing Lofoten oil is quoted about 127s. per barrel c.i.f. terms.

According to cabled statistics from Norway, the catch and output of cod-liver oil up to March 29 was as follows:

	Catch of Cod	Livers for Raw Oils (hect.)	Yield of c.i.o. (hect.)
Lofoten, 1913...	5,900,000	610	3,547
Do. 1912...	13,900,000	1,004	10,805
Whole country, 1913	21,600,000	3,777	15,028
Do. 1912...	53,300,000	6,715	41,541

Comparing these figures with the previous week, we find the total output of Lofoten cod-liver oil was 768 hectolitres only, and that for the whole country 2,736 hectolitres.

COPPER SULPHATE is easier at from 23l. 5s. to 23l. 7s. 6d. for the usual Liverpool brands for prompt delivery, and 23l. 10s. for April.

CORIANDER-SEED is steady, but sales small, at 13s. 6d. per cwt. for wormy and 15s. 6d. for good Morocco.

CUMIN-SEED.—Holders are firm at 25s. per cwt. for fair Morocco, with some small business doing at the price.

DIGITALIS LEAVES on the spot are offered at 33s. per cwt.

ERGOT is quiet and unchanged, sound Russian for April-May shipment from Hamburg offering at 3s. 7d. c.i.f.; the spot value of sound Russian is 3s. 10d. to 4s. In the drug-auction two bags small sound Russian were limited at 3s. 9d. per lb.

ESERINE.—Owing to cheaper raw material, makers have reduced prices by 1s. 1d., the quotation for sulphate in 100-gramme lots being 2s. 11d. per gramme, the pure alkaloid being 1s. extra.

FENNEL-SEED.—Some dusty East Indian has been sold at 18s. 6d. per cwt.

FENUGREEK-SEED is firm at 10s. per cwt. for good Morocco.

GENTIAN is quoted 28s. 6d. per cwt. spot.

GERANIUM OIL.—Finest Bourbon quality is dearer, cabled quotations of 40s. per lb. c.i.f. having been received; spot sellers quote 30s. to 31s., and African is worth about 33s.

GLUCOSE has advanced 3d. per cwt., to 11s. 7½d. for the usual brands. Starch powder is also dearer, and although the quotation is nominally 11s. 1½d., a premium of 4½d. is obtainable for prompt supplies.

GLYCERIN is a very firm market, and it is anticipated that prices will advance sooner or later. The official quotation for double-distilled s.g. 1.260 in cases is 94l. per ton, and 90l. in drums on five-ton contracts; second-hands quote cases at 89l. and drums at 85l.

LEMON OIL remains substantially unchanged at from 12s. 6d. to 12s. 9d. per lb. c.i.f., and at from 12s. 6d. to 13s. 6d. spot, according to holder.

A Palermo advice dated March 29 states that the demand from consuming places has been slack this week, but locally the end of the month has brought to light, as usual, requirements to fill previous blank contracts. As previously mentioned, such engagements were less important and less urgent than those which made the January and February liquidations so complicated and troublesome. Still, several parcels changed hands at full prices, with occasionally slight improvements. Unless foreign buyers send in inquiries and orders, the strain which has been apparent this week will again give way after the end of the month: prices which have been paid come up to 12s. 1½d. per lb. c.i.f. terms.

LINSEED is quiet and lower at 48s. to 55s. per quarter for good to fine clean quality.

LINSEED OIL is 6d. cheaper on the week, the closing quotation for London pipes being 23s. and 23s. 6d. for barrels.

MENTHOL is quiet at from 28s. 6d. to 29s. spot, according to brand. The *Kaga Maru* has brought a total of ninety-five cases from Japan, also eighty cases of peppermint oil. In the drug-auction five cases Suzuki were held at 28s., and two cases Kobayashi at 29s.

The exports of *menthol* from Japan during January amounted to 23,138 kin. valued at 377,940 yen, against 16,482 kin. valued at 186,352 yen, in January 1912, and 16,019 kin. valued at 104,024 yen, in 1911. The exports of *peppermint oil* during January were 35,641 kin. against 22,124 kin. in 1912 and 20,109 kin. in 1911. The above

exports of menthol are the largest recorded for the past three years at least.

From another source we are informed that the shipments of menthol and peppermint oil from Japan from February 22 to March 31 amounted to 660 cases and 1,350 cases respectively. The total shipments for the first three months of the year now amount to 4,420 cases menthol and peppermint oil.

MORPHINE.—Makers are asking 10s. 3d. per oz. for hydrochloride powder, with the possibility of 10s. leading to business. There is not much available from second-hands; business has been done from this source at 9s. 10d.

OPIMUM is firm at last week's advance. A fair amount of buying from London has taken place, the sales including 11-per-cent. Turkey druggists' at 19s. per lb. c.i.f.; quotations are, however, somewhat spasmodic, and some ask 20s.; on the spot 21s. is quoted. In Persian a fair business has been done on the spot at from 19s. to 22s. 6d., according to test, but it is difficult to make sales owing to the firmness of sellers.

A Smyrna correspondent writes on March 21 that very little business has been done this week, owing to the tenacity of holders, being unwilling to sell at even top prices—viz., 16s. 6d. to 13s. 6d. The sales this week amount to 22 cases at 17s. to 17s. 6d. The arrivals in Smyrna are 2,335 cases, against 1,150 at same date last year.

A Constantinople correspondent writes on March 23 that, following on the pessimistic news regarding the new crop, speculators became excited, and as the result of their purchases prices advanced both here as well as in Smyrna, European markets following in sympathy. The sales comprise 13 cases druggists' at from 250 to 280 ptns. and 25 cases "softs" at from 270 to 300 ptns. per oke; market closes firm at the higher prices. It is maintained that the autumn and winter sowings have suffered by about 50 per cent., but the extent of the damage needs verification. The arrivals in Constantinople amount to 2,443 cases, against 1,311 cases, and the stock is 789 cases, against 135 cases.

ORANGE OIL.—Sicilian is rather easier, sweet offering at from 11s. 2d. to 11s. 9d. per lb. e.i.f. A Palermo advice (March 29) states that the demand has slackened off and the position is somewhat easier.

OXALIC ACID is $\frac{1}{2}$ d. per lb. higher at 3d. per lb. net.

QUICKSILVER has been very steady throughout at 7l. 10s. from first-hands and 7l. 1s. from seconds.

QUILLAIA on the spot is offered at 29l. to 30l. per ton for whole; Liverpool reports a very scarce and firm market.

QUININE.—There is still no definite news to report concerning the planters and manufacturers. Meanwhile the quinine market is unaltered at 10d. nominally for German sulphate from second-hands.

At the Amsterdam auction held on March 23, 1,417½ kilos. (Ed. II. or B.P.) were offered and bought in at fl.17.50 per kilo. The next auction will be held on April 11, when a similar quantity will be offered.

The landings in London during March were 129,984 oz., and the deliveries 54,592 oz., leaving a stock on March 31 of 3,795,856 oz., against 4,081,488 oz. in 1912.

SHELLAC.—Quiet, although a shade firmer for TN Orange on spot, the value of which is 79s. for fair; free AC Garnet is quoted 76s. and GAL 66s. TN for May-June shipment is quoted 83s. and A. C. Garnet 75s. c.i.f. Futures have been steady with a fair business, including May at 79s. 6d. to 80s. 6d.; to 80s.; August, 83s. to 82s. 6d.; and October, 84s. to 83s. 6d.

Soy is easier owing to arrivals, including 150 per *Pembroke*; 1s. 6½d. is quoted for good brands on spot; arrivals of Wochan are expected in about a month.

SULPHUR.—Flowers offer at 6l. 12s. 6d. to 6l. 15s. and roll at 6l. 7s. 6d., ex wharf London. In Liverpool 5l. 15s. per ton c. and f. is quoted for flowers and roll.

TONKA BEANS.—Hamburg reports that offers of new-crop *Angostura* for forward shipment have been withdrawn; spot (Hamburg) is offered at 11s. 3d. per lb.

TURPENTINE on balance is about 7½d. per cwt. cheaper, the closing quotation for American on spot being 29s. 1½d. and May-August 29s. 6d.

VALERIAN-ROOT is dearer at 37s. 6d. per cwt. c.i.f. for Belgian in at least 5-cwt. lots.

WAX, JAPAN.—A good business has been done for May-June shipment at 41s. 7½d. per cwt. c.i.f.

London Drug-auctions.

Commercial Sale-rooms,

Mincing Lane, E.C., April 3.

At the auctions of first and second hand drugs very little was disposed of. Cape aloes, being scarce, brought firm to rather dearer rates, but Curaçao aloes in cases tended easier. Socotrine and Zanzibar were neglected. Buchu is quiet, but there is a fair demand privately. Sumatra benzoin was firm and in better demand than usual. Cardamoms declined from 2d. to 3d. pe. lb. for Ceylon-Mysore, and for a fine parcel of Mangalore good prices were realised. Coca-leaves sold at a slight decline for Ceylon-Huanoco. Dragon's-blood and gamboge were neglected, as was honey. Ipecacuanha was slow of sale, and tended easier. Orange-peel was firm and in fair demand. Japanese peppermint oil was cheaper on sales without reserve, and for rhubarb steady prices were paid. Sarsaparilla realised an advance of 3d. to 4d. for grey Jamaica, while native Jamaica was steady. Tinnevely senna was of little interest, and large supplies of turmeric were bought in. Beeswax showed no change on the few sales that were made. The following table shows the quantity of goods offered and sold:

	Offered	Sold		Offered	Sold
Aeonite	5	0	Honey—		
Ajowan-seed.....	150	0	Calif.	25	0
Aloes—			Cuban.....	29	0
Cape	25	25	Jamaica.....	1	0
Curaçao	6	6	New Zealand ..	79	0
Socotrine	45	0	Ipecacuanha—		
Zanzibar (eases)	36	0	Cartagena	10	0
Annatto-seed	21	1	Johore	1	0
Argol (Cape).....	2	0	Matto Grosso ..	28	3
Asafetida	40	6	Minas	10	0
Balsam peru.....	4	0	Kamala	2	0
Balsam tolu	1	0	Kino	10	0
Bay oil	3	0	Kola	2	2
Benzoin—			Lemon-grass oil ..	1	1
Palembang	8	4	Lime-juice	10	0
Sumatra.....	106	54	Liquorice-powder	7	0
Buchu.....	42	0	Liquorice-root	20	0
Calumba	80	0	Manna	1	1
Camphor—			Mastich	1	0
(Jap.ref.tabs)(cs.)	15	0	Menthol.....	8	0
Canella alba	7	0	Milk-sugar	4	0
Cannabis indica ..	23	0	Musk	4	0
Cardamoms & seed	187	62	Myrrh.....	67	9
Caseara sagrada ..	118	35	Nux vomica	241	1
Casearilla	3	3	Olibanum	22	0
Cassia	10	0	Orange peel	37	13
Cassia fistula	8	8	Papain	8	0
Cassia oil	5	5	Pareira brava	18	0
Chaulmoogra oil ..	2	0	Peppermint oil.....	10	10
Chiretta	95	0	Puree	2	0
Cinnamon oil	20	1	Putchaleaves	26	0
Coca-leaves	314	30	Rhubarb (China)...	71	12
Cod-liver oil (Nor.)	10	0	Sarsaparilla—		
Colocynth and pulp	30	0	Grey Jam.....	17	17
Copaiba	9	1	Native Jam.	8	8
Croton-seed	16	0	Seedlac	20	0
Cubebs	55	0	Senna and pods—		
Cuttlefish-bone ..	28	0	Alexandrian	39	0
Dragon's-blood	13	0	Tinnevely	68	15
Elemi	80	0	Squill	5	0
Ergot	4	0	Strophanthus	6	0
Eucalyptus oil	23	0	Tamarinds	82	0
Fennel-seed	20	0	Tragacanth	42	28
Galbanum	5	0	Turmeric	592	21
Gamboge	19	0	Turtle dried.....	1	0
Guaiaicum	14	8	Wax (Bees')—		
Gum acacia	129	37	China	15	0
Gurjun oil.....	30	0	East Indian	133	12
Jalap	15	15	Jamaica.....	2	2
			Morocco.....	6	3

ALOES.—Cape, of which 25 cases offered and sold on 20-per-cent. tares, realised an advance of 6d. per cwt., the following prices being paid: Good hard seconds, 40s. to 40s. 6d.; fair seconds, 39s. 6d.; fair seconds, slightly drossy, 39s. to 39s. 6d.; ordinary dullish seconds, 36s. 6d. to 37s.; half-livery half-black, 34s. 6d.; and seconds, mixed with straw, 33s. per cwt. Six boxes of Curaçao sold at 60s. for fair smooth liver, 52s. 6d. for slightly coarse and dark, and 45s. for dark smooth.

Hamburg reports that Curaçao is in small supply, with eapcy offering at 45s. and smooth livery at 47s. 6d. per cwt. e.i.f.

ASAFETIDA.—Six cases of slightly softish block sold at 72s. 6d. without reserve.

BALSAM PERU.—For two cases of fair of direct import from Acajutla 8s. 2d. was wanted.

BALSAM TOLU.—A single case of drossy in large tins was held at 3s. 6d. net. Privately 3s. 6d. net on spot is quoted.

BENZON.—Sumatra was in fair demand, rather more than usual selling, the sales including four cases very fair almondy seconds at 7l. 12s. 6d., and eight cases fair ditto, with small to bold almonds, at 7l.; five cases ordinary seconds sold at 6l. 12s. 6d. per cwt. subject, and for 11 cases common seconds from 5l. 15s. to 5l. 17s. 6d. was paid; for common thirds 5l. 2s. 6d. was realised for 17 cases. Four cases Palembang thirds had been sold privately, and 62s. 6d. was wanted for a further four cases of similar quality.

BUCHU.—Quiet and unchanged. The value of fine green round new crop is 6s.; in auction very fair green round old crop was obtainable at 5s. 9d. and stalky ditto at 5s. 6d., down to 5s. 2d. to 5s. 3d. for stalky and yellowish. Good green longs were offered at 5s., ditto with chopped stems at 4s. 4d., and for ovals from 1s. 6d. to 2s. 2d. was wanted for common stalky to fair green slightly stalky. There is a fair demand privately. It is estimated that this year's crop of round leaf will be about 200 bales less than that of the previous year, which in itself was of moderate proportions only; on this basis a crop of 600 bales of round leaf may be expected.

CARDAMOMS.—The demand for Ceylon-Mysore was slow, and rates declined 2d. to 3d. per lb., as follows: Ceylon-Mysore, good to extra bold long palish to pale, 5s. 5d. to 5s. 9d.; medium and bold palish to pale, 5s. to 5s. 2d.; small and medium ditto, 4s. 4d. to 4s. 8d.; bold splits, 4s. 6d.; ordinary to fair brown splits and pickings, 3s. 5d. to 3s. 10d.; fair seed, 4s. 5d.; Bombay seed, 4s. A parcel of 23 cases fine bleached Mangalore—the mark having been absent from the market for about nine years—was offered and partly sold at good prices, including extra bold fine pale round, 6s. 8d. to 6s. 9d. (ditto, but slightly warty, 6s. 6d.); good bold fine pale, 6s. 5d.; medium to bold ditto, 6s.

CASCARA SAGRADA.—A lot of 35 bags sea-damaged 1911 crop sold at 26s. and grease-damaged at 29s. without reserve.

CASCARILLA.—Three barrels of fair siftings sold at 50s. per cwt.

CASSIA FISTULA sold at steady rates, eight baskets of fair thin fresh Java pod realising 23s. without reserve.

CASSIA OIL.—Five cases of 70 to 75 per cent. c.a. sold without reserve at 3s. per lb., being 2d. cheaper than the previous sale.

CHIRETTA.—The limit in one instance, where 70 bales of ordinary were offered, was 5d. per lb., and for 25 bales fair 3½d. was wanted.

CINNAMON OIL.—A small sale was made at 2¾d. per oz. for fair Ceylon leaf oil.

COCA-LEAVES were easier, 63 cases of Ceylon Huanoco selling at from 8½d. to 8¾d. for a little dullish to fair bright stout greenish. A string of 224 packages of ground Java was offered, but the highest bid of 4¼d. was not accepted, 5d. being the limit.

COPAIBA.—A single case of cloudy (Parry's analysis B.P.) sold at 1s. 10½d. nett, no allowances. Five barrels fair cleared South American were held at 1s. 9d., and for three cases of essential oil 5s. was asked.

ELEMI.—Neglected and tending lower; 80 cases were offered, and for a few cases a bid of 40s. is to be submitted for fair pale and 37s. for ordinary dull paste.

GUAIACUM sold at higher rates, eight casks being disposed of, including fair to good glassy block at 1s. 1d. to 1s. 2d., half-tear part slightly drossy 1s., and ordinary drossy 9d. to 9½d. per lb.

GUM ACACIA.—A lot of 28 bags fair small pale soft Kordofan gum was held at 60s. and yellowish ditto at 52s. 6d.; 31 bags sold without reserve at from 25s. to

31s. country and sea-damaged and blocky Sudan sorts. Six bags Madras gum sold at 30s. To arrive Sudan sorts are quoted 31s. c.i.f.

IPCACUANHA.—Quiet and easier. Three bales badly sea- and grease-damaged Matto Grosso sold at 7s. 5d. to 7s. 6d., and slightly sea-damaged at 7s. 10d. For fair sound 9s. was wanted, and a bid of 8s. 9d. is to be submitted for a bale of fair. Minas was held at 8s. 4d. to 8s. 6d. and Cartagena at 8s. per lb.

JALAP. was steady, 15 bags selling without reserve at from 8d. to 8½d. for small to bold part heavy Vera Cruz, the analysis in natural state showing 7.3 per cent. and dried 8.6 per cent.

KINO.—Although offered without reserve, no bid was forthcoming for ten cases common dull black slightly blocky grain.

KOLA being scarce sold at improved rates, a bag of fair dried West Indian halves selling at 5d., and for a bag of dark, part mouldy, 4d. was paid.

LIQORICE-ROOT.—A lot of 20 bags decorticated Russian sold without reserve at from 19s. 6d. to 19s. 9d. per cwt.

MANNA.—A single case of slightly sea-damaged flake sold without reserve at 2s. 9d. per lb.

MYRRH.—Quiet; seven bales of reddish siftings sold at 35s. Two bales of dust at 24s., and 18 bales of dark pickings were bought in at the high price of 45s.

ORANGE-PEEL was firm, eight packages of ordinary darkish Tripoli strip selling at 6d.; for five barrels of common dark offered without reserve 4d. was paid, and for a further lot of seven cases of fair bright strip from second-hands 10d. was wanted. Privately, last year's crop of good colour is offered at from 8d. to 8½d., and fair of this year's crop at 7½d.

PEPPERMINT OIL.—In the drug-auction six cases Japanese (Suzuki) sold without reserve at from 6s. 4d. to 6s. 5d., and for four cases Kobayashi, also without reserve, 6s. 6d. was paid. Privately, the spot price of Japanese is 7s. for Kobayashi and 6s. 10½d. for Suzuki. Prohibitive prices are quoted to arrive from first-hands, and second-hands offer at 7s. c.i.f.

RHUBARB.—Quiet; six cases of medium-size flat High-dried, with three-quarters fair pinky fracture, slightly wormy, sold at 10d. per lb., subject to seller's approval, and for two cases small to medium flat High-dried, with half pinky and half dull to dark fracture, 11½d. was paid. Bold round Shensi, with three-quarters pinky fracture, was limited at 3s. 9d., and medium to bold flat at 3s. 3d.

SARSAPARILLA.—Grey Jamaica, of which 17 bales offered, was from 3d. to 4d. dearer, fair fibrous selling at from 2s. 8d. to 2s. 9d. (one lot), and for a bale mixed with a few dark hanks 2s. 6d. was paid. Native-Jamaica was steady, eight bales selling at from 1s. to 1s. 1d. for dull red slightly mixed to fair red partly mouldy in pressed bales. Privately, grey is scarce, and resales have been made up to 2s. 10d., also Lima-Jamaica at 2s. 7d.

SENNA.—Quiet. Sixteen bales of darkish Mecca pods offered, and a bid of 4d. is to be submitted for part; 5 bales fair broken Alexandrian leaf were held at 3½d. per lb. Of Tinnevely, 5 bales medium to bold yellow leaf sold at 2¼d., and 3 bales small to medium part clean greenish at 2d. to 3d. without reserve; small sales of sea-damaged were made at 1½d.

SQUILL.—Five bales of fair pale dry were limited at 2½d. per lb.; privately a fair export business has been done and very little is obtainable. Good white is worth 3d.

TURMERIC.—For 100 bags fair Madras "coloury" finger a bid of 16s. is to be submitted; the bulk of this description was held at from 18s. to 20s.

WAX, BEES'.—Jamaica, which was in small supply, sold at steady rates, two packages realising 7l. 17s. 6d. for fair brown, and 7l. 5s. for ordinary dark brown. Good bleached Calcutta was limited at 8l. 10s., and brown bleached at 7l. 10s. Small sales have been made privately. Three bags of common Morocco sold at 7l. 5s., and ten cases adulterated Bombay sold without reserve at 50s. per cwt. In Liverpool, Gambia wax is quoted 7l. 12s. 6d. per cwt.

Heavy Chemicals.

There is generally a steady tone in the heavy-chemical market, and there is a fair all-round demand at all centres for both main and miscellaneous products. Export business is very fair, and prospects for northern ports are good.

SULPHATE OF AMMONIA is steady at practically unchanged rates. Beckton, 25-per-cent. ammonia guaranteed, 13*l.* 15*s.*; London terms, prompt, 13*l.* 5*s.*; Leith, 14*l.* 2*s.* 6*d.*; Liverpool, 14*l.* 1*s.* 3*d.*; and Hull, 14*l.*

ALKALI-PRODUCE.—Bleaching-powder in steady request, at 5*l.* 5*s.* to 5*l.* 15*s.* per ton for softwood casks, on rails, according to circumstances. Caustic soda in fair average demand: 75 to 77 per cent., 10*l.* to 10*l.* 10*s.*; 70 per cent., 9*l.* 5*s.* to 9*l.* 15*s.*; and 60 per cent., 8*l.* 5*s.* to 8*l.* 15*s.* Ammonia alkali, 58 per cent., steady, at 2*l.* 17*s.* 6*d.* to 3*l.* 10*s.* per ton, free on rails for home trade. Soda-crystals, 2*l.* 2*s.* 6*d.* to 2*l.* 5*s.* per ton, in bags, free on rails. Bicarbonate of soda, 5*l.* to 5*l.* 15*s.* per ton, according to packages, etc. Saltcake somewhat on the quiet side at 42*s.* 6*d.* in bulk. Chlorates of potash and soda in fair demand, at 3½*d.* to 4*d.* per lb. Yellow prussiates of potash and soda fairly steady, at 6½*d.* to 6¾*d.* for potash, and 4*d.* to 4½*d.* for soda. Hypo-sulphite of soda moves steadily; ordinary crystals, 5*l.* 7*s.* 6*d.* to 5*l.* 17*s.* 6*d.* per ton for larger lots, in casks, and smaller quantities extra; deliveries in 1-cwt. kegs, 5*l.* 17*s.* 6*d.* to 3*l.* per ton, according to quality and quantity. Silicates of soda very steady; 140° Tw., 4*l.* 10*s.* to 5*l.*; 100° Tw., 4*l.* to 4*l.* 10*s.*; and 75° Tw., 3*l.* 12*s.* 6*d.* to 4*l.* 2*s.* 6*d.* per ton, according to quality, quantity, and destination.

Continental Drug and Chemical Markets.

CANTHARIDES.—Russian are sparingly offered, prompt shipment being quoted m.7.85 per kilo., but some parcels are held off the market at m.7.90 to m.8.

ERGOT.—Although the demand is quiet, holders have not given way, some asking about m.775 per 100 kilos.

GENTIAN has arrived rather more freely, and prices in some directions are more reasonable; some, however, quote the high price of m.58 to m.60 for French, and m.54 to m.56 for Spanish.

LYCOPODIUM is easier on account of larger offers; cases are quoted to arrive at m.3.35, and spot (Hamburg) at m.3.40 per kilo.; bags on a firm order would be obtainable at m.3.26 to arrive, and at m.3.30 for prompt delivery.

PHENOLPHTHALEIN is being manufactured in much larger requirements than consumption requires; consequently, competition is keen, and low prices are quoted; from m.11 to m.12 per kilo. may be taken as a fair price. The future of the market is unsettled.

TONKA-BEANS.—The principal Hamburg importers of Angostura have withdrawn their prices; in second-hands limited quantities are available at m.11 per kilo. *Para* is firm, with a small business, spot costing m.16.

Port of London Authority.

Some particulars have been published regarding the new head offices of the Port of London Authority. The building, which will be on an island site with extensive frontage to Trinity Square and return frontage to Seething Lane, Crutched Friars, and Savage Gardens, will be detached and rectangular in shape and carefully planned for the housing of the staff. Some very important areas will be available for the erection of city offices, the largest having a continuous frontage of over 300 ft. to Crutched Friars; the next site in importance will front Seething Lane, and the third and smallest will front on Trinity Square. With the modernising of this locality it is anticipated that the tendency of shipping and commercial firms will be to move a little more to the eastward.

Turkish Canary-seed.

H.M. Consul at Constantinople, in a report just issued, gives some particulars of the Turkish canary-seed market, in the course of which he states that the prospects for the next crop are very gloomy. The peasants in the producing districts have emigrated almost to a man; the small remaining stocks in the vilayets up-country have either been burnt or rooted, and there is little chance of any serious sowing this spring. The estimated total stock in Turkey on December 31, 1912, was 30,000 sacks.

CONGO KOLA.—So far kola has not ranked as a commercial export from the Belgian Congo. Kola-seed was imported in 1901 from Sekondi, Gold Coast, and was sown in the Botanic Garden at Eala; a hundred good trees were produced, and seeds from these have been distributed.

CONGO IMPORTS.—The imports of drugs into the Belgian Congo during 1911 amounted in value to 12,723*l.*, against 3,392*l.* in 1910 and 4,600*l.* in 1909; in 1911 the bulk arrived from Belgium, the United Kingdom supplying about 2,000*l.* worth. Pharmaceutical products imported were valued at 20,636*l.*, against 21,492*l.* in 1910.

Alleged Theft of Chemicals.

AT the South-Western Police Court on March 29, before the Hon. John De Gray, Isidore Zeifert, trading as Darch & Co. at Temperance Buildings, Coldharbour Lane, Brixton; Thomas Stephen Clay, warehouseman, Parkham Street, Battersea; and James Francis Foster, counterman, Birkenhead Road, Enfield, were brought up, on remand, as being connected with sundry thefts of chemicals, including santonin, valued at over 500*l.*, from May & Baker, Ltd., chemical manufacturers, Battersea. The preliminary stages of the case were reported in the *C. & D.*, March 29. The two last-mentioned prisoners were charged with the thefts, while Zeifert was charged with feloniously receiving the goods. Mr. Curtis Bennett, barrister, conducted the case for the prosecution, Mr. Nicholls, solicitor, represented Foster, and Mr. Matthews, solicitor, appeared in defence of Zeifert.

Mr. Nicholls, at the outset, said that his client had pleaded guilty to having stolen over a long period, and had made a statement to that effect. He therefore submitted that the evidence to be given on that occasion should not affect him, and that his case should be dealt with first of all. In any case he might be admitted to bail.

The Magistrate declined to grant the application.

Mr. Richard Blenkinsop, F.C.S., director of May & Baker, Ltd., was the first witness called. Replying to Mr. Curtis Bennett, he said that from April 1911 till October 25 of last year Clay was employed by his firm as foreman bottle-washer. He left of his own accord. Foster was employed as dry-floor packer from October 20, 1908, up till the date of his arrest. Both prisoners were probably brought in contact with santonin in the course of their duties. Zeifert had never been a customer of the firm, either under his own name or that of Darch & Co. At the end of each year stock was taken, so far as the dry-floor packing department was concerned, by George Perrin, one of the employés. At the end of December of last year a communication was made to him, in consequence of which he reported certain facts to the police. Investigations proved that 105 lb. of santonin was missing, and of that a large proportion was Merck's santonin. It was in parcels each containing 11 lb. Its value was 525*l.* Other articles were also missing, including morphine, iodine, bismuth, potassium iodide, calomel, quinine, anti-pyrin, and pepsin. On February 25 he went over Zeifert's shop in company with Inspector Pike and Sergeant Gillan. The inspector told Zeifert that he was searching for a quantity of missing santonin, and that he understood from Mr. Darch that he knew nothing about it. Zeifert offered to make a statement about it, and did so, Sergeant Gillan making a note of it. In this Zeifert made no reference to anything else beyond santonin. A search was made of the shop, and witness identified the various packets and bottles found there and produced in court as his firm's property. He recognised the bottles from their appearance, and as they bore labels in Foster's handwriting. Witness formally identified the goods, explaining that the bismuth carbonate was not found in Zeifert's premises on the occasion of his visit, but at a later date. Inspector Pike had asked Zeifert where he got the persin, calomel, and bismuth carbonate. He said he had purchased them from Johnson, the man, he added, from whom he purchased all the samples. The whole of the property produced came from the dry-floor department in which Foster was employed. Certain labels submitted to him, which Mr. Curtis Bennett said were handed by Zeifert to Inspector Pike, he recognised as having been specially printed for his firm. These Zeifert had no right to have on his premises.

Mr. Blenkinsop was then cross-examined by Mr. Matthews. He explained that he visited Zeifert's premises in company with the police because he had heard of some santonin transaction, and he was in search of information regarding it. Mr. Blenkinsop was then interrogated as to the manner in which Zeifert's statement was taken down by the police, and his answers were briefly to the effect that it was dictated. The articles were not displayed in the shop, but were behind. He was then

questioned as to the origin and publication of the footnote to the report of the hearing of the case in the *C. & D.*, March 29, index folio 475.

In re-examination by Mr. Curtis Bennett, witness said that when such articles as those stolen are sold by wholesale chemists, the name of the article is never written in pencil. He also explained that santonin had risen from 9s. per lb. to 87s. 6d. and 100s. last year. As to the footnote in the *C. & D.*, he admitted that he had given certain information, but not in the words in which it appeared.

Mr. Matthews asked that Zeifert should be admitted to bail for some reasonable amount. He submitted that his client should be presumed innocent till he was found guilty, and up to that point there was no evidence against him. On the last occasion when bail was refused it was suggested that if it were granted Zeifert might do a certain thing, but he had, as Zeifert's solicitor, received his assurance that he would do nothing wrong. His wife, family, and business were all suffering from his absence.

Inspector Pike opposed bail on the ground that if liberated Zeifert would go out of the country.

The Magistrate refused bail for all the prisoners, and they were accordingly remanded.

AUSTRALASIAN NEWS.

"The Chemist and Druggist" is regularly supplied by order to all the members of nine Societies of Chemists in Australia and New Zealand, and to many other Chemists in business there.

The Commonwealth.

FOOD AND DRUG STANDARDS.—Up to the present, the report of the Royal Commissioners on food and drug standards has not been ready for distribution to the public. The latest information is that preparations are being made for a conference to be held in March. (See *C. & D.*, March 8, index folio 363.)

CUSTOMS DECISIONS.—"Ceregen" and "Zoegen" have been added to the list of exempt foods. They are made by John Bell, Hills & Lucas, Ltd., London. Liquor carbonic detergens is charged with 15 per cent. duty when non-spirituous and 15 per cent. or according to strength when spirituous, and a recent decision says that this applies whether the preparation is made with rectified spirit or with methylated spirit.

New South Wales.

DR. ASHBURTON THOMPSON retired from the position of President of the Board of Health of New South Wales on February 28.

THE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE has established an Infants' and Invalids' Food and Condensed Milk Sectional Committee. Mr. F. G. Shrimpton, of G. Shrimpton & Sons, of Sydney and Melbourne, is Chairman. The firm represents Robinson's Patent Barley, Allenburys' Food, Nestlé's Milk and Food, Cornwell's Malt Extract, and other proprietary foods.

PHARMACY BOARD.—At the meeting of the Board on January 21 the annual report was read. The balance-sheet showed that the income for the year, including 282*l.* 9*s.* 4*d.* in the bank on January 1, 1912, was 664*l.* 14*s.* 7*d.*, and the expenditure 451*l.* 17*s.* 6*d.*, leaving a balance in the bank on December 31, 1912, of 212*l.* 17*s.* 1*d.* Mr. Loney reported that Messrs. Short and Gray and himself had interviewed the Chancellor and Professor Anderson Stuart, and had discussed the question of the establishment of a college of pharmacy at the Sydney University. They were well received, and the whole question had been fully gone into. They had insisted that the director should be a competent man and a qualified chemist. The principal question was the matter of finances. The Chancellor had promised to lay the matter before the Senate.—At the meeting on February 13 a pass for the Preliminary examination of the Pharmaceutical Society of Ireland in 1903 was submitted by George Smith, who asked that it be accepted in place of the Board's Preliminary examination. The

matter was referred to the examiner, who, having seen the synopsis of the Irish examination, considered that the Board should accept the pass. It was agreed that the names of candidates passing the respective examinations be posted in future in order of merit; also that the marks secured be not disclosed to the candidates. This resolution was in conformity with one passed at the recent Melbourne conference.

New Zealand.

THE HECTOR MEMORIAL MEDAL, which perpetuates the memory of Sir James Hector, formerly Councillor of the New Zealand University, has been awarded to Professor Easterfield, of Victoria College, Wellington, for his chemical researches, especially in connection with New Zealand products.

Victoria.

MR. W. E. WOODS, of W. E. Woods, Ltd., manufacturers of Woods' Peppermint Cure, has returned to England by the s.s. *Orvieto*. Mr. Woods' health has been entirely restored.

FIRE.—An outbreak of fire occurred on January 18 on the premises of Messrs. Rocke, Tompsitt & Co., 292 Flinders Street, Melbourne. Considerable damage was done to the stock on the third and fourth floors and other floors were damaged by water. The construction of the building was such that the flames were prevented from spreading, and the damage was much less than it would have been in an older building.

MR. SHILLINGLAW'S RETIREMENT.—A special meeting of the Pharmaceutical Society was held on December 23 to receive and consider the resignation of Mr. H. Shillinglaw, Registrar. At the close of the meeting the President announced that the resignation had been received with great regret, and that six months' leave of absence had been granted to Mr. Shillinglaw on full pay. At the monthly meeting held on January 8, Mr. C. L. Butchers (who has been Mr. Shillinglaw's assistant for a long time) was appointed Acting-Registrar from February 1, 1913. Two days later he was appointed General Secretary of the Australasian Pharmaceutical Conference.

Western Australia.

FOOD AND DRUG REGULATIONS.—These regulations as regards proprietary medicines come into operation on May 1. Regulation 61, requiring the statement on the label of the presence of any one of certain drugs which are specified in the regulations, and the quantity, has not been objected to. In regard to Regulation 62, which requires the publication or the deposit of the complete formula, the Honorary Minister (Mr. W. C. Angwin) claims that these regulations have been prepared by a Pure-Food Advisory Board consisting of Dr. Hope (Commissioner of Public Health), Dr. Atkinson (at present Deputy-Commissioner), Mr. Mann (Government Analyst), Mr. E. Allnutt, and Mr. J. M. McFarlane, the last two well qualified to protect the commercial interests. He also stated that in regard to drugs the *personnel* of the Board was slightly altered. Mr. W. L. Thomas, M.L.A., a qualified chemist and druggist, and Mr. Garner, representing a wholesale establishment for drugs, etc., took the places of Messrs. Allnutt and McFarlane. A standard was then fixed for drugs. Mr. Garner stated in an interview with the Press that, although he was a member of the Committee appointed to prepare the regulations, the first he knew of Regulation 62 was when inquiries were being made from the Eastern States. He then discovered that this regulation had been framed without his knowledge, and on making inquiries found that it had been passed by the professional members of the Committee, and that Messrs. Allnutt and McFarlane refused to vote on the matter, as it did not belong to their particular section. Mr. Garner pointed out that the analyses published in "Secret Remedies" are the joke of the trade, the formulæ given being most inaccurate and incomplete, important drugs being left out and others not contained in them inserted. Dr. Atkinson and Mr. Mann have both been talking on the subject, and Mr. Mann very naïvely remarked that "the prevalence of these ready-prepared nostrums has seriously interfered with the exercise of the legitimate practice of medicine."

CANADIAN NEWS.

(From the "C. & D." Correspondent.)

B.C. UNIVERSITY.—Dr. Westbrook, Dean of the Faculty of Medicine of Minnesota University, has been selected as President of the University of British Columbia. He is a Canadian by birth, but received part of his education at Cambridge University and St. Bartholomew's Hospital, London.

CANADIAN DUTY ON PERFUMES.—In reply to an inquiry made to him by the Birmingham Chamber of Commerce, the High Commissioner for Canada has replied that there is a preference on non-alcoholic perfumes imported from the United Kingdom, but that on perfumes containing alcohol the ordinary tariff is applied, and, so far as he is aware, it is not proposed to abolish this discrimination against alcoholic perfumes.

AGRICULTURAL CHEMICALS.—Strychnine and formaldehyde orders are beginning to be received by the druggists throughout the country, states the "British Columbia Pharmaceutical Record." Strychnine is a favourite poison for the gopher, and is sold in great quantities. Formaldehyde is used in treating grain, and it is nothing to see a small drug-store with a stock of five or six barrels on hand. Good prices are obtained for these two articles, and it is easy business to handle.

COLONIAL AND FOREIGN NEWS.

SPIRITS FOR NIGERIA.—By an Order of the Governor in Council, dated March 25, the duty on spirits imported into Southern Nigeria has been increased to 6s. 3d. the imperial gallon at the strength of 50° Tralles. For every degree or part of a degree in excess of that strength an additional duty per imperial gallon of 2½d. is payable, and for every degree below that strength a reduction of duty per imperial gallon of 1½d., the minimum duty payable being 5s. per imperial gallon.

[The Tralles degrees express approximately the alcohol in 100 measures of spirit at 60° F.; thus 50° is spirit of sp. gr. 0.9335.—EDITOR, C. & D.]

THE ARGENTINE TAX on perfumery, toilet requisites, medicinal specialties, etc., has been modified. The current selling prices, as fixed by the Administration with the assistance of three representatives of the trade (instead of the actual retail selling price, as originally provided), are to serve as the basis for the assessment of the duty imposed by the Law. Until this Valuation Tariff is drawn up, but not for a period longer than six months, the latter portion of Article 2 of the Law, which requires the selling price of the article on which duty has to be paid to be affixed to the covering, is to remain in abeyance. The above particulars are published in the "Board of Trade Journal" of March 27.

A FAMOUS COLLECTION of Italian pharmacy pots was recently purchased by M. Brunner, a Frenchman, but so far he has been unable to obtain possession of his property. It appears that the "Pharmacy of the Two St. Georges," which recently closed its doors after three centuries of existence, was one of the most ancient in Venice. It dated from the days when the Doges declared the art of the apothecary to be a "noble" one, a decree which gave the wealthy pharmacist the right to marry into the patrician families of the Republic of the Lagoons. Nothing, as will be easily understood, was considered too valuable or artistic to ornament an *officine*, and the proprietor of the St. George Pharmacy (one of the richest of his class) bought a magnificent set of porcelain drug-pots, manufactured at Savona, the birthplace of Popes Sixtus IV. and Julius II. The pharmacy held and personally managed for three generations by the Mozzoni family finally came into the hands of Dr. Baldisserotto. At the expiration of his term the heirs of the Mozzoni decided to close the establishment and sell the contents. Several offers had already been made for the Savona porcelain. In 1848 the Minoco Museum offered 24,000 marks to old Mozzoni and he had refused. The heirs were offered 4,000 marks by the Civic Museum, a

sum they naturally declined to accept, and they accordingly closed with M. Brunner for a price which is not divulged. The Italian Government, acting in virtue of the law forbidding the free export of national artistic treasures, laid its embargo on the bargain, and at present police mount guard day and night over the closed pharmacy to prevent the removal of its contents!

SOUTH AFRICAN NEWS.

(From "C. & D." Correspondents.)

"The Chemist and Druggist" is regularly supplied by order to all the members of the seven Societies and Associations of Chemists in British South Africa, as well as to other chemists in business there.

The Union.

TARIFF ALTERATIONS.—The following tariff interpretations were published officially in the "Union Gazette" on March 4:

Chalk in bulk, 3/ per 100l. Dentists' sheet gold (not being gold solder or gold amalgam), *free*. Dog-foods—Melox, Osoko, Rodnim, Bulldog meal, Fibro; Minoka juice (non-spirituous), an agent for forming foam in liquors; parazone (a bleaching agent), all 15/ per 100l., but if of U.K. manufacture, 3 per cent. *ad valorem*. The whole of the duty on chalk is rebated if of U.K. manufacture.

ADVERTISING S.A. PRODUCTS.—The South African National Union is arranging to hold towards the end of May an "All South African Week." Most of the leading storekeepers throughout the country are being requested to make special window-displays of South African products. Hotels are to be asked to give preference in their menus to local food products, and the Press is expected to make special reference to the occasion, with a view to inducing an increase of patriotism in the matter of the consumption of local products.

Cape Province.

SHOW EXHIBITS.—At the Rosebank Agricultural Show, Cape Town, to which reference was made in last week's issue, Messrs. Day, Son & Hewitt, whose South African headquarters are at Strand Chambers, Port Elizabeth, showed an attractive line of animal medicines, sheep-dips, disinfectants, veterinary instruments, etc. One of their main objects was to introduce their Kossolian blood salts.

CAPE CHEMICAL SOCIETY.—A meeting of the Cape Chemical Society was held on February 28 at the Chemical Laboratory of the South African College, Dr. C. F. Juritz (the President) occupying the chair. Dr. P. D. Hahn spoke on the analysis of nicotine, with special reference to sheep-dips which were guaranteed to contain a definite percentage of nicotine. On analysing some of these sheep-dips a large discrepancy had been found. Some discussion followed on the probable reason for that discrepancy. Dr. Hahn showed some specimens of tantalite and columbite ore which had been found in the north-west of the Cape Province, south of the Orange River mouth. The results of the analyses were given. Dr. R. Marloth was elected President of the Society for the ensuing year. The Council's action in declining to amalgamate the Society with the Royal Society of South Africa, which came up before the meeting, was confirmed.

Orange Free State.

MEDICAL AND PHARMACEUTICAL COUNCIL.—A meeting of the O.F.S. Medical and Pharmaceutical Council was held at Bloemfontein on February 28, Dr. A. Ward in the chair. A letter was read from the Secretary of the Interior having reference to the case of Mr. Raf Yonkelson, who, it may be remembered, was alleged to have been guilty of unprofessional conduct by having inserted an advertisement in a country paper drawing attention to his business as a dental surgeon. The matter was held over until the next meeting of the Council. The Board of Examiners appointed for the recent Pharmaceutical examination reported that the candidate who had failed in five subjects out of seven had been referred to his studies for a period of six months. The action of the Board was confirmed.

TRADE-MARKS.

Objections to the registration of any of the undermentioned applications must be stated on Form T.M. No. 7 (obtainable at Money Order Offices for £1) and lodged with Mr. W. Temple Franks, Comptroller-General, Patents Office, 25 Southampton Buildings, Chancery Lane, London, W.C., within one month of the dates mentioned.

The figures in parentheses refer to the classes in which the marks are desired, for a list of which, with particulars as to registration, see "The Chemists' and Druggists' Diary," p. 444.

(From the "Trade-marks Journal," March 19, 1913.)

Pictures of two fowls shaking hands, with words "HOW ARE YOU? HAVE YOU HAD YOUR MOLASSINE?"; for veterinary chemicals (2), and for animals' food (42). By the Molassine Co., Ltd., Tunnel Avenue, East Greenwich. 348,175, 348,695.

Oval label device of pine-tree, with words "PROCTOR'S PINELYPTUS"; for medicinal pastilles (3). By G. H. Proctor, 80 Grey Street, Newcastle-on-Tyne. 349,175.

"PY-LOR"; for a medicinal intestinal powder (3). By A. J. Gray and A. Greig, 47 Kirkgate, West Calder, Midlothian. 347,037.

"SILCHURN"; for goods (3). By Oldfield, Pattinson & Co., New Bridge Street, Manchester. 347,773.

"VINOFOSEA"; for tonics and wines (3). By W. Blair-McGuffie, 51 The Parade, Leamington Spa. 349,039.

"MENTHYMOLINE"; for a medicine (3), and for preparations for the teeth (48). By C. J. Hewlett & Son, Ltd., 35-42 Charlotte Street, London, E.C. 349,285/6.

"DENTISOL"; for a toothache-remedy (3). By Squire & Sons, 413 Oxford Street, London, W. 349,535.

Circular device with words "AUSTIN'S ORIGINAL ANTI-NEURALGIC SLUMBER VEIL" and monogram "E. A."; for a medicated slumber veil (3). By Eliza Austin, Ring House, Clonakilty, co. Cork. 349,235.

"JAXO"; for medicinal chemicals (3). By R. Speedie, 5 and 7 High Street, Crieff. 349,588.

Circular device of dog's head; for lenses, eye-glasses, etc. (8). By H. B. Doleman, 172 West Regent Street, Glasgow. 349,411.

"VIMTO"; for a beverage (42). By J. N. Nichols & Co., 203a Chapel Street, Salford, Manchester. 349,275.

"WHITE KNIGHT," for goods (47 and 48); "NORSE KING" and "NORSEMAN," for perfumery, etc. (48). By John Knight, Ltd., Silvertown, London, E. 348,362/3, 349,506/7.

"POLKA"; for perfumery, etc. (48). By C. Thomas & Bros., Ltd., Bristol. 349,270.

Picture of man with mps sitting on moustache ends, and word "IMPSICK"; for moustache pomade (48). By the Dorset Perfumery Co., 4 Worcester Street, Kidderminster. 348,689.

"ACORN," with picture of same; for goods (47 and 48). By W. Gossage & Sons, Ltd., Widnes. 349,272/3.

"GREKIS"; for perfumery, etc. (48). By Boot's Pure Drug Co., Ltd., 37 Station Street, Nottingham. 349,573.

"KINGFISHER"; for toilet brushes (50). By Mason Pearson Bros., 1-8 Royal Victor Place, Old Ford Road, London, N.E. 348,645.

"DENTCLAIR," with device of hand; for tooth-brushes (50). By P. E. E. Nuyts, 8 Rue de l'Union, Roubaix (Nord), France. 348,940.

(From the "Trade-marks Journal," March 26, 1913.)

"PESTITE"; for a chemical for destroying soil insects, etc. (2). By H. Hogbin, "Elmdale," Denbigh Road, Hounslow. 348,407.

"RED STAR," with picture of same; for animal medicines (2). By Alex. Robertson & Sons, Oban. 348,729.

"HONEY SUCKLE"; for goods (2). By Liverine, Ltd., Fraser Street, Grimsby. 348,849.

"KARDYL"; for medicines (3). By W. E. Smith & Co., Ltd., Mount Road, Madras. 346,626.

"KUZAL"; for medicines (3), and for perfumery, etc. (48). By Reynolds & Branson, Ltd., 13 Briggate, Leeds. 349,234, 349,224.

"SELAROM"; for medicinal chemicals (3). By the Bayer Co., Ltd., 20 Booth Street, Manchester. 349,291.

"ASPALIA"; for medicinal chemicals (3). By Vinolia Co., Ltd., 37 Upper Thames Street, London, E.C. 349,452.

"LECIMALT" and "LECIVOSE"; for medicines (3). By Schacht Warner & Co., 55 Fore Street, London, E.C. 349,464/545.

"CODAMALT"; for medicinal preparations (3). By the British Diamalt Co., 11 and 13 Southwark Street, London, S.E. 349,493.

"PATHONE" and "CALORIT," for medicinal chemicals (3); "ALCOLONE," for toilet articles (48). By John Bell, Hills & Lucas, Ltd., Tower Bridge Road, London, S.E. 349,594/623/595.

"ZIZI"; for all goods (3). By B. F. Bernard, Snailwill Road, Newmarket, Suffolk. 349,656.

"SPIROMOL," "MUSCABANE," and "ULTROID"; for medicinal chemicals (3). By Allen & Hanburys, Ltd., 37 Lombard Street, London, E.C. 349,723/761/2.

"CONSTIGURE"; for a medicine (3). By R. Thwaites, 105 Marylebone Road, London, N.W. 349,913.

Label device with words "SANDOW'S HEALTH AND STRENGTH COCOA," etc., and portrait of applicant, for cocoa (42); "SANDOW'S CHOCOLATE," with silhouette of applicant, for chocolate (42). By Sandow's Cocoa and Chocolate Co., Ltd., 5-21 New Kent Road, London, S.E. 349,071/2.

Picture of little girl shaking hands with rabbit; for food-substances (42). By Cadbury Bros., Ltd., Bournville, Birmingham. 349,993.

"STROBO"; for mineral and aerated waters (44). By W. J. Bush & Co., Ltd., 28 Ash Grove, Hackney, N.E. 349,896.

"ELSO"; for perfumery, etc. (48). By J. Ehrlich, 114 Copenhagen Street, London, N. 348,447.

"GODIVALENE"; for a hair-preparation (48). By Louisa E. Lord, 8 Rumsey Road, Brixton, London, S.W. 348,911.

"SOURCE D'OR," "WHISPERS OF SPRING," and "LOVE'S SECRET"; for perfumery, etc. (48). By Yardley & Co., Ltd., 105 Carpenter's Road, Stratford, E. 349,101/242/354.

"ENEXENE"; for perfumery, etc. (48). By P. H. Crewe, Glencairn, Woods Moor Lane, Stockport. 349,186.

"LA DANSE" and "FEUILLES D'OR"; for perfumery, etc. (48). By Boot's Pure Drug Co., Ltd., 37 Station Street, Nottingham. 349,571/2.

"BRONAMALT"; for perfumery, etc. (48). By Fletcher, Fletcher & Co., Ltd., 469 Holloway Road, London, N. 349,717.

"LARENOL"; for perfumery, etc. (48). By F. H. Rowcroft, 66 Week Street, Maidstone. 349,759.

NEW BOOKS.

Any of these books printed in the United Kingdom can be supplied, at the published price, to "C. & D." subscribers on application (with remittance) to the Publisher, 42 Cannon Street, London, E.C. These notes do not exclude subsequent reviews.

Carr, E. *Investors' Book-keeping*. 6 $\frac{1}{2}$ ×4 $\frac{1}{2}$. Pp. 36. 1s. net. (E. Wilson, 54 Threadneedle Street, London, E.C.) [This provides a system of book-keeping for investors which is simple, but which exhibits a true statement of each security. The method is explained and then shown in use by means of a set of accounts. The second part of the book deals with "How to Check your Stockbroker's Account," which is an explanation of Stock Exchange dealings and provides a method of checking the broker's own charges and the cost of the stamps and fees. The official sale of commissions is given in full.]

Grossmann, J. *Elements of Chemical Engineering*. With Preface by Sir William Ramsay, K.C.B., F.R.S. Fifty illustrations. 2nd edit., revised. Pp. viii+152. 3s. 6d. net. (Charles Griffin & Co., Ltd., Exeter Street, Strand, London, W.C.) [We published a review of the first edition of this book in 1906. The present volume has been revised as regards the prices of chemicals and other materials which have varied within the last few years. The author emphasises the importance of the cinematograph for illustrating in the lecture-room the use of machinery. He also suggests that a good collection of trade catalogues and price-lists would form a valuable addition to technical libraries and educational institutions. We commend this volume to the notice of students.]

The Chemists' and Druggists' Year Book and Directory for Scotland, 1913. Edited by J. P. Gilmour, M.P.S. (Munro & Co., Glasgow.) [This book of 264 pages is the second issue. It is on former lines, but contains a number of special articles, one of the most interesting being on the National Insurance Act.]

White, T. Charters. *The Microscope and How to Use It: A Handbook for Beginners*. 7 $\frac{1}{4}$ ×4 $\frac{1}{2}$. Pp. 170. 2s. net. (R. Sutton.)

REVIEWS.

Arbeiten aus dem Pharmazeutischen Institut der Universität Berlin. Investigations conducted in the Pharmaceutical Institute of the University of Berlin. Issued by Professor H. THOMS, Director of the Institute. Vol. IX. Pp. viii and 256, with eleven illustrations in the text. (Urban und Schwarzenberg, Berlin and Vienna, 1912.)

The preceding volumes of this publication have been regularly noticed at the time of their appearance, and the same general plan and arrangement of the subject-matter as before have been adopted for the present issue, which comprises the investigations conducted in the Berlin Pharmaceutical Institute during the academic year 1911. In the introductory pages a brief account is given of the range of activity of the Institute during the year covered by the report, which comprises several items of general interest. It is noted, for example, that the number of students attending the lectures on pharmaceutical chemistry was eighty-one in the summer semester and eighty-four in the winter semester, while in toxicological chemistry there was an attendance of forty-two, both courses including two ladies. During the two semesters practical work was conducted by ninety-seven and one hundred and twenty-two students respectively. The cultivation of medicinal plants for scientific purposes has been continued. In addition to Japanese peppermint, which was specially considered in the preceding report, *Ruta graveolens* and *Dictamnus Fraxinella* have now been grown, in order to investigate the essential oils at different stages of development of the plants. Much attention has been given to the methods of detecting methyl alcohol in alcoholic liquors, this line of inquiry having been particularly instigated by the many cases of poisoning which occurred not long since in Berlin through the consumption of methylated spirits. It is also noted that the museum and the library of the Institute have been enriched by valuable donations, among which are a fine collection of Japanese drugs and food-stuffs, as also ancient Japanese remedies from the animal kingdom. The contents of the volume are arranged under the following principal sections, which indicate to some extent the variety and character of the work accomplished:

I. Investigations conducted in the department for the examination of medicines, proprietary preparations, and secret remedies.

II. Organic chemical investigations, phytochemical, physiological, and of a general character.

III. Microchemical investigations.

IV. Investigations conducted in the department for the examination of food and drink, together with technical and colonial products.

V. Lectures and judicial reports.

Although most of the scientific contributions contained in this volume have already appeared in chemical or pharmaceutical periodicals, their arrangement in the present form will be a convenience to many who may wish to consult them, and some of the papers are indicated as not having yet been otherwise published. As it would not be practicable to attempt a detailed consideration or even an enumeration of the various papers, it may suffice to state that collectively they form an excellent exposition of the unabated activity of the Director of the Institute and his staff of assistants. They also afford a manifestation of their endeavour, apart from the work of instruction, to render the exceptional facilities of the Institute widely useful. It is therefore to be hoped that the efforts which are being put forth to maintain for scientific pharmacy a position worthy of its past achievements will meet with due encouragement and reward.—*F. B. P.*

C. & D. SHOPS ACT NOTICE.—An inspector of shops under one of the County Councils, writing in regard to the notice-card which we publish for exhibition by chemists during closing hours on the half-holiday, says: "The notice seems to be as little objectionable to the shopkeeper as it can be made." We supply a pair of the notices for 8d., post free.



Memoranda for Correspondents.

All communications must be accompanied by the names and addresses of the writers, otherwise they cannot be dealt with. Queries by subscribers on dispensing, legal, and miscellaneous subjects connected with the business are replied to in these columns if they are considered to be of general interest. Letters submitted for publication (if suitable) should be written on one side of the paper only. Their publication in "The Chemist and Druggist" does not imply Editorial agreement with the opinions expressed.

Improved Insurance Prescription-form.

SIR,—I suggest this prescription form because I think it will involve less trouble and expense than that at present in use, and, moreover, will satisfy the doctor, because it entirely obviates the use of carbon paper—only one prescription need be written, and that may be in ink if desired.

Middlesex Insurance Committee.				
Patient's Name			Date	
s	d	R	Doctor's Signature	
Price of Container				
Dispensing Fee				
Total	Chemist's Stamp	Official Stamp	Date Number	
Total			Date Number	

From X to X the form is perforated. The doctor has nothing to do with any of the form below A, which is perforated at B, and the part C is gummed for adhesion to the invoice after checking by the Insurance Committee.

It will satisfy the chemist, because the original prescription itself is kept, and not merely a copy. It saves both time and trouble in pricing and filing, and reduces to a minimum the clerical work involved in rendering accounts. It will satisfy the Commissioners, because it satisfies the other two parties and simplifies very considerably the labour of checking accounts. It also saves the expense of carbon papers, duplicate prescriptions, and chemists' copying-fees. The method of using it is as follows:

The doctor having written the prescription, the patient takes it to the chemist and leaves the paper in exchange for the physic. The chemist numbers each prescription consecutively as received, prices out ingredients, adds price of container and dispensing-fee when necessary, and inserts in duplicate in the spaces provided at the foot of the paper the total amount, the date, and the number. Then, having been impressed with the chemist's stamp, the prescription is filed. When 100 prescriptions have been received they are fastened together at the top and sent to

the Insurance Committee to be checked. This checking operation cannot be avoided whatever prescription-form is used. Each prescription is checked and stamped with the official stamp, care being taken that this falls on both sides of the perforation. The bundle of prescriptions is then sent back to the chemist. Now, to render his account the chemist simply tears the bottom strip (c) from each prescription at the perforation (b), and, moistening the back which is gummed, sticks it in its proper order upon the account-form provided for the purpose. This strip bears date, number, and total of each prescription, which totals can then be added up and the account sent in. The Committee know that these prescriptions have been checked, since each slip bears the official stamp. All that is necessary, therefore, is to check the additions, pass the account, and—pay the amount in full!

Highgate, N.

ARTHUR E. BAILEY.

Insurance Dispensing: Renewal of Contract.

SIR,—So we do not get a three months' trial or any definite promise of payment in full before we are asked to renew the blind contract for another nine months. If the number of applicants is more than the estimate of 12 per 1,000 per day, and we know that the cost of each script is nearer 7d. than 5d., the limit of 1s. 9d. is beyond our control. Although you disclaim the idea that the tariff is not based on the 1s. 6d. to 2s. allowance, it is a fact that no basis but the *per capita* has been advanced; and if it were not made to fit, the Pharmaceutical Standing Committee ought to tell us by what occult process they arrived at the same cost per 1,000 persons insured. I am glad to see that you are keeping a strict watch on the revision of tariff prices. I have no time to waste on these ha'porths and fractions of a penny; they would be beneath the notice of any other trader but a chemist. Some are in favour of having these tariff prices raised; it is certain that they can never be advanced to meet the extra remuneration the chemist ought to get. I doubt if it is good policy to raise them. Some say we are getting a 33½ per cent. profit on the drugs sold; therefore the Insurance Commissioners, who know nothing of the pettifoggery quantities dealt in, would consider us extortioners if we are not satisfied. Again, nine-tenths of the drugs can be dealt in by unqualified persons, and if we are mere drug-retailers there will be contracts in the future and most likely severe competition when the Government has learned the trade. The working expenses of most chemists' businesses would be 17½ to 20 per cent. on the gross turnover (an important consideration), and although this item is ignored by my critics, it has to be paid before we can get at our real net profit on the drugs; therefore I think the Pharmaceutical Standing Committee should be asked to raise the dispensing-fee instead of the tariff. I have always maintained that this is a question of the cost of skilled labour, and if qualified men are to dispense or supervise they must be paid better for their services. We cannot command more than market prices for the drugs, but we can insist on full value for our services in dispensing, together with some consideration for our business and premises being practically leased to the Government, and perhaps at much less cost than State dispensaries. The chemists have shown a desire to work for the Government; they will not take any advantage of their position, but before signing the contract they should know the exact conditions of payment, and also have some definition of that person who for three years previous to 1912 has been in a doctor's stable or has done any act by which he can be called a dispenser. Administrative expenses of the Insurance Act will be enormous. The Government grant for Medical Benefit will be greatly exceeded. Someone is going to be shorn; it will not be the Government officials, and it is for the chemists to show that, though docile and easily led, they are not going to be driven like sheep to the shearer.

Hereford.

Yours truly,

J. J. JACKSON, Ph.C.

The Smyrna Black Gang.

SIR,—In your issue of March 29 you mention "Fraudulent Traders at Smyrna," and advise your readers to inquire at the British Chamber of Commerce at Constantinople before dealing with traders in Turkey. I wish to point

out that in so far as Smyrna is concerned, there is a British Chamber of Commerce on the spot, the Secretary being Mr. C. MacDowall Russell, with offices at 21 Logal Honischer, Smyrna. This Chamber is comprised of the leading British houses in Smyrna, and is well informed regarding the "Black Gang" you refer to. It might therefore be of interest to the British houses who deal with Smyrna to become non-resident members of the Smyrna Chamber, the annual subscription to which is only 10s. per annum. As I am its Honorary Secretary in London, I shall be pleased to give any further information.

Yours faithfully,

Finsbury Court, London, E.C. F. W. PARRY.

Subscribers' Symposium.

For questions, answers, incidents, and interchange of opinions among "C. & D." readers.

London Chemists' Association Dinner.

Mr. J. Wellesley Douglas (164 Lambeth Walk, London, S.E.) informs us that some pharmacists who are opposed to the National Insurance Act are abstaining, on political grounds, from the April 10 dinner, and disclaims such supposition, the sole object being to honour the gentlemen who have worked so well to put the chemists' provisions into force, thereby converting many a prescription-less pharmacy into a busy dispensing establishment. Surely, he adds, those men who have negotiated for chemists deserve our thanks and praise: the dinner presents a pleasant way of offering both.

Alkaloidal Assay of *Ipecacuanha*.

Mr. Wm. B. Cowie, F.C.S. (Edinburgh), informs us that the expression "mil" was used in his communication on the above subject to the North British Branch (*C. & D.*, March 29, index folio 495) as a contraction for "millilitre," which he employs for the following reasons:

(1) The contraction "c.c." representing the term "cubic centimetre," which represents the volume of one gramme of distilled water at + 4° C., does not correctly represent the volume of 1/1000th part of a litre at + 15.5° C.

(2) The contraction "mil," representing the term "millilitre," which represents the 1/1000th part of a litre at 15.5° C., is correct, as all solutions are measured at + 15.5° C. (approximately) in volumetric analysis.

He concludes that of the two terms, "cubic centimetre" and "millilitre," the latter is the more correct, and the contraction "milli" should be used in preference to that of "c.c."; also he hopes to see the term "millilitre" used in the next British Pharmacopœia. [See the British Pharmacopœia, 1898, p. 458.—*ERROR, C. & D.*]

Married Men and the Minor.

Two or three weeks ago I read a heading and note, "Not Too Old for the Minor," and noticed the ages given as thirty and thirty-four. May I be allowed to add my experience? For thirteen years previous to last July I carried on a drug-store (I never could see any moral right to "The Pharmacy"). I had served a regular apprenticeship of four years, and passed the Preliminary in 1891, but losing my father at the time, I never got an opportunity of doing the Minor. Thanks to the Insurance Act, I determined, at the age of forty, to tackle the Minor, and having always been a student, I found the work most interesting. I left the business fifteen months ago in charge of my wife, and went to the Edinburgh Central School of Pharmacy for six months, attempting the Minor for the first time in July, and passing creditably at this first attempt. I may add that, although forty years of age, at the school tests I never came below the third from the top in marks. You will have noticed that I am married. I have five children, and three years ago had to go to a sanatorium for some months for phthisis. I fancy sometimes my case may be almost a record. I have much to thank my teachers at the school for. I write this as an encouragement to others.—*Digital* (24/49).

Fatal Effects of Quinine upon *Pekinese Puppies*.

A case which appears to be of considerable physiological interest has recently come to our notice, write Messrs. Salamon & Seaber, the circumstances being as follows: Three small toy *Pekinese* puppies, of four months, were each given a pill composed of

Powdered gentian ...	...	...	1 gr.
Quinine sulphate ...	...	...	1 gr.
Ferrous carbonate ...	...	...	1 gr.

An hour afterwards it was noticed that one of the puppies was behaving in a curious fashion. His head was rolling

to one side, and he was slowly moving his front paws. The other two were examined and found to be dead, and this one died very shortly afterwards. After death there were no abnormal signs in any of them; in fact, judging from appearances, they might have died a natural death. A *post-mortem* examination was made by a veterinary expert, but there were no abnormalities of any sort. The stomach contents were then examined for metallic poisons and alkaloids. No metallic poisons were found, and the only alkaloid found was quinine. The pills were also examined, with similar results, strychnine and arsenic being specially looked for. The quinine was estimated and found to be approximately 1 grain per pill as sulphate. There can be no doubt, therefore, that the dogs died as the result of quinine-poisoning. This is rather remarkable, as the fatal dose for dogs is generally given as about 30 grains, and a child of twelve months can usually take as much as 3 grains quite safely. It is well known, however, that quinine has very abnormal effects upon certain individuals, and it is possible that this particular breed of dog is especially susceptible to its action. At any rate, we consider that this case shows the care that must be exercised in administering any powerful drug to a young puppy of a delicate breed like the Pekinese, and we doubt whether it is ever wise for a chemist to take the responsibility of prescribing for any of the specially sensitive breeds of dogs.

Dispensing Notes.

This section is for the discussion and solution of dispensing problems and prescriptions submitted by "C. & D." readers. We are always pleased to receive the opinions of readers for publication. "The Art of Dispensing" ("C. & D." Office, 6s.) is the standard book of reference on this subject.

Dispensing Solution of Quinine.

A. F. (256/40), in making a stock solution of quinine sulphate with acid, hydrobrom. dil. and water, concentrated the solution so much that the excess of acid threw out an insoluble salt of quinine that will not redissolve. He now asks:

(1) Can you suggest any way in which I can use up this insoluble quinine salt, instead of throwing it away?

(2) Will you please give me some convenient formula for stock solution of quinine sulphate? I prefer, if possible, to use acid, hydrobrom. dil. instead of acid, sulph. dil., as a medical man here invariably orders the former.

(1) The precipitate is chiefly quinine sulphate. Ascertain the amount of it, and redissolve it in water with either dilute sulphuric or hydrobromic acid. The solubility of quinine is limited even in presence of an acid. The strength of the solution that can be made and kept at ordinary temperatures may be approximately ascertained from the solubility of the acid salt formed by the acid used. The solubility of quinine acid sulphate is about 1 in 10. A solution containing 1 grain of sulphate in 8 minims can be made and kept with 1 minim of dilute sulphuric acid; and if the temperature does not fall below 60° F., a solution of 1 in 6 made in the same way will remain clear, but directly the temperature falls lower a deposit occurs in quantity varying with the temperature. (2) The acid hydrobromide of quinine is slightly more soluble than the acid sulphate, and you can work on that basis for a stock solution. You will need, however, more of the dilute hydrobromic acid than of the dilute sulphuric. Try a 1-in-3 solution, using 2 minims of acid for 1 grain of quinine sulphate. Such a solution has remained free from deposit for a week with us in variations of temperature with a fall to 48° F.]

Legal Queries.

Before writing about your difficulty consult "The Chemists' and Druggists' Diary," 1913, pp. 211-242 and pp. 457-459, where most legal difficulties are anticipated.

M. W. (26/11).—Without having a specimen of your article before us alongside one of the kind that you fear to infringe, it is not possible to advise you.

Forceps (15/28).—We have not received the handbill, but for an unregistered person to advertise that he gives "skilled advice" is not an infringement of the Dentists Act.

Nemo (22/21).—Payment of chemists' assistants by the week does not mean that a week's notice suffices to terminate the agreement. A month is the custom in the trade. See *C. & D. Diary*, p. 233.

Danger (10/63).—There is nothing on the label of your Green Salve to make it liable to medicine stamp-duty. It is not held out nor recommended as a medicine for the cure or relief of any human ailment.

King's Lynn (23/31).—The supply of goods to public bodies by contract is not considered to be a retail transaction; consequently, if scheduled poisons are included among the goods a person who is not a registered chemist may be the contractor.

W. N. (25/61).—The "off" wine-licence is transferable, and when you move from your present premises to others in the same area you should apply for the transfer to the Clerk to the Licensing Justices. See the article in the *C. & D. Diary*, p. 238.

J. W. (257/21).—POISONOUS PATENT MEDICINES can only be sold by registered chemists. The fact that a grocer is a licensed vendor of patent medicines does not entitle him to sell any containing poison, unless they are the subject of letters patent actually in force, which the one that you mention is not.

S. E. A. (29/13).—LEASES.—A landlord may impose any condition as to repairs that he pleases, and the references to tenantable repairs are usually considered to apply to the outside as well as the inside. Before you sign any lease you should be advised by your own solicitor. See the references to leases in the *C. & D. Diary*, "Agreement and Contract" article, p. 231.

March (12/52).—You will find the Order in Council with reference to LIQUID PREPARATIONS OF CARBOLIC ACID containing not more than 3 per cent. of phenols in the *C. & D. Diary*, 1913, p. 212. So far as labelling is concerned, it is presumed that the descriptions by which they are sold, as mentioned in the Order, are to be put on the label along with the word "Poisonous" and the name and address of the seller by retail.

Factor (23/35) and his neighbour occupy ADJOINING PREMISES. The neighbour has installed a small electric-light plant upon his premises, and "Factor" finds the noise and fumes from the engine very irritating and disagreeable. Has he any remedy? [If, having regard to the circumstances, the noise and fumes materially interfere with the ordinary comfort of "Factor's" existence, he is entitled to treat the engine as a nuisance, and take proceedings against the neighbour for an injunction and damages.]

D. S. (18/1).—While there is nothing in THE DENTISTS ACT specifically prohibiting unregistered dentists from being appointed inspectors of teeth at a National school, Section 5 of the Act provides that a person "shall not be entitled to recover any fee or charge in any Court for the performance of any dental operation or for any dental attendance or advice, unless he is registered under this Act, or is a legally qualified medical practitioner." We are of opinion that this provision could be advanced as a reason why none but a registered chemist should be appointed inspector of teeth.

Inquirer (25/19).—(1) There is no legal restriction against the retail SALE OF GLUCOSE. (2) DUTCH DROPS are specifically mentioned in the Schedule to the Medicine Stamp Act, 1812, and the mere divesting them of their printed wrappers does not exonerate them from duty; but if sold in such a manner that there is no means of identifying them as Dutch Drops, we do not see how it would be possible to compel payment of duty. It is, however, within the power of the Customs authorities to co-operate with the Excise, so as to follow any import to its destination. The Excise can insist that each package is stamped before it is put into stock.

Kimia (15/12) entered into PARTNERSHIP with his father, and introduced 400l. into the business, which had been opened by the father a short time previously with a capital of 500l. The partnership terminated upon the death of the father, who took an active part in the business for one year only out of the seven that the partnership had lasted. The question of the division of the partnership assets was submitted to arbitration, as the result of which the goodwill was assessed at 1,000l., and the total amount due to the father's estate was fixed at 1,900l., in respect of which "Kimia" entered into a bond, and has since paid interest at 5 per cent. Of late years the business has been carried on at a loss, so that "Kimia" has been unable to pay the interest, and in consequence the father's trustee has given notice requiring payment of the 1,900l. within six months. During twenty-five years the father and his estate have received about 3,000l. in respect of an original investment in the business by the father of 500l. "Kimia" claims that the goodwill must have been built up by himself, and asks whether a court of law would upset the arrangement, or

whether the father's trustee can sell the business and turn him out? [We are of opinion that if the arbitration was free from fraud, and the bond is in order, the Court has no power to upset the arrangement. If the father's trustee sues upon the bond, he may be able to enforce the judgment against the business by execution or bankruptcy proceedings, and in the latter case the business may be sold.]

Miscellaneous Inquiries.

We do not as a rule repeat information which has been given in this section during the past twelve months, as it occupies space which can be more profitably utilised for other information. In such cases the numbers are mentioned, and if querists cannot refer to these they may obtain the numbers from the "C. & D." Office at the published prices, usually 6d.

We do not undertake to analyse and report upon proprietary articles, and when samples are sent particulars should be supplied to us as to their origin, what they are, what they are used for and how.

P. H. G. (254/54).—TOMATO-SAUCE.—The specimen of sauce which you send is prepared from a recipe like the following:

Tomato-pulp	...	...	50	gals.
Vinegar	...	...	3	gals.
Sugar	...	...	15	lb.
Salt	...	...	5	lb.
Onion	...	...	5	lb.
Garlic	...	...	$\frac{1}{2}$	lb.
Cayenne pepper	...	...	$\frac{1}{4}$	lb.
Bay-leaves	...	...	$\frac{1}{2}$	oz.
Cinnamon	...	...	1	oz.

The onion and garlic are first cooked in part of the vinegar, and then added to the other ingredients, except the powdered cinnamon, which is only put in at the end of the process. The whole is ground to a pulpy condition.

J. L. B. (205/2).—BOOK ON CEMENTS AND PASTES.—Standage's "Cements, Pastes, Glues, and Gums" (Crosby Lockwood, 2s.). The subject is dealt with also in "Pharmaceutical Formulas."

R. H. (245/44).—BOOKS ON URINE-ANALYSIS.—"Practical Methods of Urine-analysis" (Office of C. & D., 2s. 6d.); Heitzmann's "Urinary Analysis and Diagnosis by Microscopical and Chemical Examination" (Baillière, 10s. 6d.). **BOOK ON BACTERIOLOGY.**—Hewlett's "Manual of Bacteriology" (Churchill, 12s.).

Victory (1/38).—CONCENTRATED WATERS.—We gave in our issue for November 11, 1911, p. 730, a formula for aqua menth. pip. conc., which may be taken as the model for preparing the concentrated solutions for flavouring waters.

Telephone 13 (18/44).—Proctor's "Manual of Pharmaceutical Testing" (published at the C. & D. Office for 2s. 6d., by post 2s. 9d.) suffices to assure chemists that their B.P. chemicals and chemical preparations approximate to B.P. standards, and will therefore pass the public analyst.

W. O. Cirk (23/56).—You will find what you want in the Calendar of the Pharmaceutical Society of Ireland, which you can purchase from the Secretary of the Society.

A. E. M. (7/1).—We are not quite sure whether we understand your inquiry, but the result of leaving sodium hyposulphite in a photographic paper is to invite deterioration—i.e., fading of the print, owing to decomposition of the sodium salt.

H. B. R. (13/41).—DISPENSER'S REMUNERATION.—The charge to a doctor for part-time dispensing at his surgery should be at the rate of at least 1s. 9d. to 2s. 6d. an hour; that is, if the matter is placed on a business basis, which such arrangements are often not.

F. D. S. (8/51).—CEMENT FOR NON-INFLAMMABLE CINEMATOGRAPH-FILMS.—Acetone is used for this, or a liquid glue made with acetic acid.

Cinema (17/48).—PICTURE-PALACE PERFUME.—We have not been able to evolve a formula for this concentrated perfume which bears dilution with water (see C. & D., January 11, index folio 68). Perhaps one of our subscribers with experience in this direction can supply the information.

Ashville (16/64).—The percentage sometimes given to doctors by chemists for dispensing private prescriptions is about 25 per cent. It is an uncommon practice, especially as, under the Prevention of Corruption Act, it is legally doubtful.

A. G. (13/17).—THEATRICAL COLD-CREAM.—The following recipe is from "Pharmaceutical Formulas":

Spermaceti	...	...	...	8	oz.
White wax	...	...	...	24	oz.
Liquid paraffin	...	...	...	128	oz.
Borax	...	...	...	2	oz.
Water	...	...	...	64	oz.
Perfume	...	...	...	as desired	

Melt the spermaceti and wax on a water-bath, and add the liquid paraffin. Dissolve the borax in the water at 140° F., add to the melted fats, place the container in cold water, and stir well until cold, adding any required perfume towards the end.

The term "Theatrical cold-cream" denotes a moderately soft cold-cream, and as cheapness is an object also, it is customary to replace almond oil by cottonseed oil or liquid paraffin. The white wax and spermaceti may further give way to hard paraffin, but the product is not so nice.

E. S. B. (14/13).—COPYING-INK.—The problem which your customer has set—to press-copy white ink on black sheets—is a difficult one. There is no trouble in making an ink which will transfer by the addition of glycerin or syrup, but when opaque copying-leaves are employed the writing would be reversed. We do not see how within reasonable means your customer, who is nearly blind, can enlarge the handwriting of letters he receives. It can be done by photography, but it would be cheaper to employ a clerk to read and write communications, and, moreover, would help your customer to conserve what eyesight he has remaining.

C. J. L. (25/54).—The reason why your LEMON SYRUP ferments is that it contains too little sugar and no preservative. Increase the sugar to 15 oz. at least in the pint.

R. J. A. (23/66).—CHEESE-ACIDITY TEST.—The caustic-soda solution employed in assaying the acidity of cheese is prepared by dissolving 4 grams of sodium hydroxide in 1,000 c.c. of water in the usual method of preparing standard solution. Each c.c. contains 0.004 gram caustic soda, and neutralises 0.009 gram lactic acid. The indicator, phenolphthalein, is made by dissolving 1 gram in 30 c.c. of 90-per-cent. alcohol. The method of making the assay was given in detail in *The Chemists' and Druggists' Diary*, 1908, p. 212.

G. E. S. (13/36).—(1) **BOOKS ON THE MANUFACTURE OF OZONE.**—There is no modern book published in English on the manufacture of ozone, if we except a practical pamphlet by the Electric Ozone Syndicate, Ltd., which deals with the manufacture of ozone by the Andreoli patents. Mr. Andreoli lectured before the London Section of the Society of Chemical Industry in February 1897 (see C. & D., February 6, 1897, p. 230, and August 5, 1893). There are several modern works on ozone in French—e.g., Otto's "L'Industrie de L'Ozone" (1900) (a paper before the French Society of Civil Engineers); De la Coud's "L'Ozone et ses Applications Industrielles" (1904), Dunod, 49 Quai des Grands Augustins, Paris; Douzal's "Production Electrique de L'Ozone" (1909), Berger, 15 Rue des Saint-Pères, Paris. (2) **MANUFACTURE OF HYDROGEN PEROXIDE.**—This was described in the C. & D., February 15, index folio 284. We know of no books on the subject, but the manufacture is dealt with in such works as Thorpe's "Dictionary of Applied Chemistry."

Retrospect of Fifty Years Ago.

Reprinted from "The Chemist and Druggist," April 15, 1863.

Oxalic Acid from Sawdust.

At the last Pharmaceutical Meeting, Edinburgh, Dr. Murray Thomson, F.R.S.E., read a paper on Mr. Dale's new method for the manufacture of oxalic acid. The idea of making oxalic acid by acting on sawdust with an alkali was not quite new on the part of Mr. Dale, as in 1829 M. Gay-Lussac published a memoir, in which he announced that M. Vauquelin had converted pectic acid into oxalic acid by heating the former along with caustic potash in a crucible. M. Gay-Lussac followed up this discovery by a number of experiments, in which he demonstrated that when a number of substances were treated with potash they yielded oxalic acid. Among the substances he tried were cotton, sugar, starch, and gum. Any of them, when heated with caustic potash or soda, gave off hydrogen gas, while the mixture charred; and at length oxalate of potash or soda was found in the black residue, and could easily be dissolved out of it.

